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JOHN BULL

Vol. XII. No. 317 | SATURDAY, JUNE 29, 1912. | ONE PENNY

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

For meaning of this No. see Page III. of cover.

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

WHAT D'YE SAY, MOLLY MOLLOY?

WORDS & MUSIC

GIVEN WITH THIS WEEK'S

MRS. BULL

Now on Sale. One Penny.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

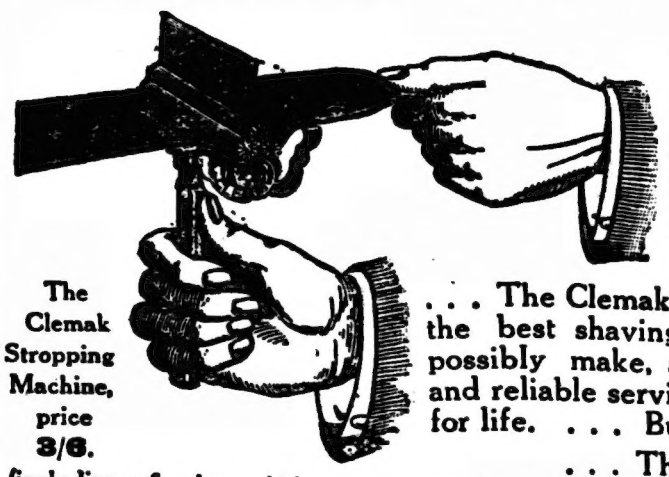
The Clemak Safety Razor—at 5s.—is Made as Well and Shaves as Well as any Guinea Safety Razor.

. . . Note how carefully it is made—the perfection of every detail—its beautiful finish. Look at the blade, feel its keen cutting edge. No other blade could shave your beard more easily than that.

. . . Now put the **CLEMAK** side by side with any other Safety Razor offered at a Guinea. You will then see for yourself that it is in every way the equal of the other Razor—and costs you 16/- less to buy. Then why pay a guinea ?

The only way to keep a razor sharp is to strop it. To buy a safety razor, and throw dull blades away, means a continuous expense for new blades.

The CLEMAK avoids all this.



The Clemak Stropping Machine, price **3/6.** (including a fine horse-hide strop), compels you to strop at the **correct** angle and pressure. Ensures a **keen** blade for **every** shave.

"A man hath to provide himself with two things, a good wife, and a good razor, and it is more difficult to find the latter than the former."

SOUTHEY.

. . . The Clemak Razor is undoubtedly the best shaving investment you can possibly make, and by its trustworthy and reliable service will prove a friend for life. . . . Buy one to-day.

. . . The Clemak Safety Razor and the Clemak Stropper is a perfect Shaving Combination. They cost together 8s. 6d., and last a lifetime. Why pay a guinea ?

COMBINATION CASE, 12 Blades, Stropping Machine, and Strop, 10/6

OF ALL STORES, CUTLERS, &c., Or post free from the CLEMAK RAZOR CO., Hilliter St., London.

CLEMAK Safety Razor 5/-

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. XII. No. 317. Week ending Saturday, June 29th, 1912. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor or the Publisher, at 93, Long Acre, London, W.C., according to whether they relate to Editorial or Business matters.
All editorial enquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

TO READERS ABROAD.

JOHN BULL *is on sale at all Bookstalls and Newsagents throughout Great Britain and Ireland and the Continent as follows:—Paris, at the Railway Stations—Nord, Ouest, P.L.M., Orleans, l'Est; the principal Kiosques on the Boulevards, etc.; Messrs. W. H. Smith & Son's Bookshop, 248, rue de Rivoli; Libraries—Timotei, rue Castiglione; Brentano's, Avenue de l'Opera; Byron, rue Castiglione; Galignani, 224, rue de Rivoli; Anglaise, Avenue Victor Hugo; Charruet, rue d'Isty; Lebeau, Avenue Kleber; F. Tennant Pain, 18, rue Favart, Wholesale and Continental Representative. Railway Bookstalls and principal Libraries at Marseilles, Hyeres, Cannes, St. Raphael, Nice, Beaulieu, Monaco, Monte Carlo, Mentone. In India, A. H. Wheeler & Co., and all their railway bookstalls. It is also obtainable through Messrs. Gordon & Gotch's Agencies in the Colonies.*

SPECIAL NOTICE TO LONDON READERS
EARLIER PUBLISHING DAY.

The London and Greater London Editions of JOHN BULL are now published on

WEDNESDAY MORNING, INSTEAD OF THURSDAY,

as hitherto; and we hope shortly to be able to expedite the publication of all Editions throughout the United Kingdom.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

THE HOME RULE DEBATE.

We cannot help feeling that the Government missed a good chance in connection with the amendment to exclude Ulster from the operation of the Bill. Without turning any section of the Irish people into Scotsmen, it surely should have been possible to have agreed upon a suspensory period during which North-East Ulster should remain outside the scope of the measure—with a "Contracting-in" clause, to come into operation any time after the expiration of, say, three years. It is only upon the basis of some such compromise that the otherwise eternal Irish question will ever be solved.

PRESS PRESCIENCE.

Several newspapers last week contained the following paragraph:—

> Mr. Redmond and Mr. Dillon called at Downing Street yesterday morning, and had an interview with the Premier, Mr. Birrell, and other members of the Government. *It is understood that the Home Rule Bill now before Parliament was the subject discussed.*

No doubt the assumption which we have emphasised reflects great credit upon the subtlety of the modern journalistic instinct, but we are in a position, in this case, to correct our contemporaries. The object of the call of Messrs. Redmond and Dillon had nothing to do with Home Rule—it related to the Ascot Gold Cup!

THE WAR OFFICE.

Apropos of the appointment of Colonel Seely to the War Office, there are rumours in political circles that the post was first offered to certain other members of the Cabinet, each of whom, in turn, declined to accept the responsibility. But for the fact, however, that Mr. Churchill had so recently assumed the helm in naval affairs, there can be no question that he would have taken Lord Haldane's place. But, all things considered, Colonel Seely's is by far the best appointment that could have been made.

MORE MINISTERIAL MOVEMENTS.

There are rumours that Mr. Sydney Buxton's illness is to some extent of the diplomatic order, although personally we should not be at all surprised to learn that his health had really broken down under the strain and anxiety of recent events. Mysterious hints are, however, afloat of an early bye-election in West Newington. Does this mean that Mr. Samuel is going to the Board of Trade and that Captain Norton is to be promoted from Assistant to actual Postmaster-General?

THE FRANCHISE BILL.

Given that a popular franchise is the right thing for the country—and it is too late in the day to argue that proposition—the Government Bill, except in certain details, is a good one, and our old friend "Jack" Pease did well in introducing it. But the County Courts must come out of it. The working man who would lose a day, hanging about to secure his vote, would have to be a very ardent politician. And working men are not politicians—they are just political pawns on the Party chess-board. That is why the franchise doesn't really matter. It is only when men begin to think for themselves that there will be trouble.

PARTY AND "EDUCATION."

But that will not be just yet. The fraud of Party, coupled with the sham of our "educational" system, will keep the man in the street quiet and harmless for a long time to come. They are designed to save him the trouble of using his own brains, and to perpetuate, all through his life, his school-day pastime of Follow-my-Leader. One of the first things the Business Government will do will be to heap all our Council school books on to a big bonfire. We remember being once sent down to the bottom of the class for describing a circle as "a ring," instead of "a figure contained by one line which is called the circumference, and is such that all straight lines drawn from a given point within, called the centre, to the circumference, are equal." But we still think we were right. At any rate, our definition is quite good enough for the boy who will have to earn his living by coal-heaving, or as a bargee.

£100 for the Test Match top scores.

MALATESTA STAYS.

The Home Secretary is right in not making an order for the expulsion of Malatesta from this country after he has served his sentence of three months' imprisonment. Many people who have no sympathy with Anarchists or Anarchism believe that Malatesta was tried for one offence and sentenced for another. Seeing that the libel on his compatriot was in some sense provoked, the sentence would certainly have been severe even if it stood alone, but if it had been followed by deportation under an Act which in our judgment never contemplated deportation in such circumstances, it would have constituted a not less monstrous punishment than that passed by Russian judges on Miss Malecka.

A CIVIL SERVANT.

Entertaining dialogue at the *Titanic* Enquiry; the witness is Captain Clarke, Assistant Emigration Officer, at Southampton, of the Board of Trade: "Since the disaster more extensive boat drills had been carried out." The President: "Then you don't think your system before this disaster was a satisfactory one?" "Not very satisfactory." "Then why did you do it?" "Because it was the custom." "Do you follow a custom although it is bad?" "Remember I am a Civil Servant, sir, and custom guides us a good bit." Think of it needing a *Titanic* disaster to get an improvement in an admittedly bad custom! The more we read of this Enquiry the more we are convinced that every living head of Department who has been connected with the "Board" of Trade during the past twenty years, especially the political heads, ought to have twelve months' hard labour at least.

ROOSEVELT'S BUNKUM.

Addressing a "vast audience" in the Chicago auditorium, Mr. Roosevelt told them that "with unflinching hearts and undimmed eyes we stand at Armageddon and battle for the Lord." As a rule, this is the sort of thing which the Chicagoans describe as "bunk," and if it is not the name they are giving it this time they had better start a revision of their language. The only person the Terrific Theodore is battling for is himself—"Theodore for himself and the Devil take the hindmost" being inscribed on his banner.

BELOW THE BELT.

Surely it is literally hitting below the belt to follow a strike leader about for the purpose of seeing what he eats and drinks when his day's work is done. The real question is whether he pays for it or is the guest of sympathising friends. The man who says that Ben, in his most "hilarious" moments, ever forgets "the lads"—well, he doesn't know him. A victim of chronic asthma, with a constitution undermined by twenty-five years of rough-and-tumble work, he is daily jeopardising his life by shouting, bare-headed, at the Tower Hill and Trafalgar Square demonstrations; and frequently we have seen him, in a state of semi-collapse, carted off by kindly friends to some West-End restaurant, revived by a square meal and a glass of wine—never missing an opportunity of stating his case to people who otherwise would never hear it, and then, coughing and choking, rushing off again to his East-end office, or to some great demonstration, and not infrequently insisting upon taking his host with him, to "see the thing for himself." No, Ben may be a fanatic, but he is not a hypocrite.

NAME WANTED.

Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady is supposed to be a strong judge. Why, therefore, did he allow the name of the alleged trafficker in Ascot Enclosure badges to be kept secret? *And why was the application left to the last day of the meeting?*

O DOGS, LIVE FOR EVER!

The latest scientific triumph is the abolition of old age. All you have to do is to insert some benevolent microbes into your intestines. They are called glycobacteria and are to be found to a great extent in the digestive tubes of dogs. There is only just one little detail that troubles us about this fine discovery of Professor Metchnikoff. If the organs of dogs have the monopoly of these microbes, how does it come to pass that our poor dear poodles and Pekinese die at so early an age? Perhaps the Professor will reply that the microbes do not give them time to grow old and that this fact is an additional virtue of glycobacteria, which spare them the troubles of senility. Meanwhile we venture to suggest, with all possible humility, that Professor Metchnikoff should pursue his investigations a little bit further and find out whether there may not exist in the intestines of man a microbe which might be transferred to dogs and enable them to prolong their existence far beyond the allotted span.

A BARMECIDE FEAST.

Complaints reach us, from various sources, of the official arrangements in connection with the Harrow Speech Day. Only about a dozen ladies were admitted to the School Songs—which, in the opinion of most of our correspondents, were the best entertainment of the day—whilst hundreds of sisters, cousins and aunts had to spend an hour waiting on the terrace, without a scrap of refreshment being provided. Some even complain of the brusqueness of the assistant masters, who were deputed to show the old Harrovians to their seats in the Speech Room. We commend these grumbles to the attention of the Head Master.

RELIGIOUS SENSATIONALISM.

If we were to say and do some of the things which the devout indulge in we should never hear the last of it. For instance, in one of the Bristol papers is an advertisement of the Old King Street Baptist Chapel, the Rev. Benjamin Gibbon being announced to preach a special sermon to young people, entitled, "The Cricketing Season: Jesus Christ's Team." No doubt the rev. gentleman's sermon was quite unobjectionable; but why choose such a title? And what is the meaning of the "N.B.—Pastor's birthday. Thank-offering day, Monday, June 10th. Pastor in his vestry from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. to receive gifts"? We trust our rev. friend is not cadging in this unblushing and unashamed way for himself. It is almost impossible to imagine his staggering home at 10.5 p.m. under a load of socks, slippers, jam-puffs, all-wool pyjamas, "purses," chest-protectors, cakes of shaving soap, sticks of lollipop, and bottles of comforter after a twelve-hours' vigil in the vestry. Wherefore we assume he was on duty for the Church.

THE TRIBULATIONS OF ST. MCKENNA.

As if it were not enough that Mr. Balfour should have saddled the Home Secretary with the incongruous title of "Saint McKenna" during the debate on Welsh Disestablishment, Sir J. D. Rees got up in the House the other day and asked the long-suffering Reggie whether, in rejecting the judge's recommendation that Malatesta should be deported, he acted "as a responsible Minister or an irresponsible Pasha." To be labelled both Saint and Pasha in the course of a few weeks may seem a high tribute to the versatility of the present Secretary for Home Affairs; but, as a matter of fact, Reginald is getting himself disliked, and—well, we shall see what we shall see.

Cricket is all the rage now. So look on page 838.

How the Money Goes.

The Auditor's report on the Treasurer's Accounts for Croydon to March of the current year makes lively reading. Alderman Martin Taylor, having to come to London to inspect certain materials for the public service, hires a motor at a cost of £2 1s. 3d., "but I submit," comments the auditor, "that if the Alderman was in business on his own account he would have made the journey to London a study in economy, and would probably have saved the £2." Then in the accounts of the Electricity Department there is a donation to Olympia of £20, and 600 tickets to ditto £10, other expenses in the same department including "Macfarlan, Stop Rot, £6 6s. 5d.," and "Scoffin,—Applying ditto £9." The Town Clerk, with a salary of £1,400 a year, goes on the rates for his £10 licence to practise as a solicitor. "The Corporation," comments the Auditor, "have in their employ a fully-qualified solicitor at £2 a week, who pays for his own certificate. Why not make him Town Clerk and effect a saving of £1,300 a year?" The Borough Hospital is also a very heavy charge on the rates, and "the many guineas paid to specialists for treatment of ringworm might be saved if the sanitary committee would invest 5s. in sulphur ointment." On the whole, we have not read a more diverting public document for a long time.

The I. P. A.,

Which means the Independent Political Association, as to which we had something to say a few months ago. We are now informed that various changes have been made in the control, and the Secretary, Mr. C. W. Adamson, wishes us to give publicity to the fact that in future the Association is to be conducted "on sound and vigorous lines." This we have much pleasure in doing, but we shall, of course, look to Mr. Adamson and his friends for an indemnity in the event of our being held responsible for libel.

Morgan's Bunyan.

Mr. Pierpont Morgan has got that Bunyan at last, as he might have had it at first except for the somewhat high-handed interference of the authorities when it was announced for auction in London. The book, it will be recalled, is a copy of Mr. Foxe's "Martyrs," and somebody made a fuss at the time because, he said, it belonged to Bunyan and ought to be bought for the nation. Mr. Morgan has paid £2,000 for it; being able to afford the money.

Clough, M.P., on the Insurance Act.

Our illustrious friend, Clough, M.P.—the Christian bruiser—has been addressing some of his constituents on Mr. Lloyd George's Ninepence-for-Fourpence Act. "When you are discouraged," he perorated,—"when upon life's billows you are tempest tossed, when you are discouraged thinking all is lost, count your many blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you what this Act hath done." Incidentally, if Mr. Clough keeps his advocacy up to this level, and presently counts his blessings one by one, he ought to find a knighthood among them.

Hamburg Humbug.

We have been favoured with an ingenuous document issued by Windus and Co., of Hamburg. It is of the appearance of a lottery ticket, and includes a list of prizes, a special number, and the arms of the City of Hamburg. But a careful examination reveals the fact that it is only a "guarantee note," and there is an intimation that "in case the above number has already been disposed of we shall reserve to us the right to allot another number." It is really a silly, clumsy kind of trick.

One Case—and Another.

Though we are disinclined to cavil at the decision of the Tunbridge Wells Town Council not to prosecute the rate collector Hughes for his confessed defalcations, we have in mind another case in which the man concerned was not so fortunate. The defalcations of Hughes amounted to over £60, but William Drury, a lavatory attendant in the employ of the Corporation at a wage of 24s. 6d. a week, was dragged before the magistrate for embezzling fourpence, money charged for two towels which had apparently been used before, though "the man had borne a good character for twenty years," according to the Chief Constable, "and had nine children under 13 years of age." It is true that the money has been refunded on behalf of the rate collector, and that the 4d. wasn't; equally true, also, that the magistrates took a merciful view of the case and let off the lavatory man with a fine of £1! It is the old, old story!

Mum's the Word—This Time.

A few days ago, a Cheltenham pharmacist despatched a bottle of medicine by parcel post to a customer at a distance. The physic went astray; and this was the explanation of the post-mistress when it turned up, at last. "I find my assistant has omitted to take this parcel from the bag for you. I was clearing all my bags up this morning and found this parcel for you. I very much regret my assistant has been careless over this, and I very much regret this should have occurred. Apologising for the inconvenience you may have been caused . . ." As accidents may happen with the best regulated young ladies, we are mum for the nonce concerning the name of this one. But if it occurs again, we shall be compelled seriously to consider her case.

The Kew Gardeners.

One of our readers is moved to deny the defence which we published recently from a friend of the Kew Gardeners. He says they do not trouble to learn much for 23s. a week, their work is easy, they have labour-saving tools, the digging and all spade work is play, the soil being in fine condition and free from rubbish—to mow good lawns is easy and pleasant, and also better than sweating in a factory for higher wages. The Kew man has an easy time as compared with his fellows who work single-handed in private places, where rusty tools are given them and useless interference by mistresses who ignorantly use the water can and ruin all skilled efforts. "At present," he says, "the lady I work for is a most unpleasant lady who imagines that plant life should be treated as they wishes." He wants us to persuade one of our readers to take him on, but we hesitate to recommend him.

Very Free Trade.

A correspondent complains that we are paying foreigners £12 a ton for new potatoes, while they pay us only about £2 a ton for old ones. But surely new potatoes have always been nicer and more expensive than old ones, and the remedy would be found in trying to grow them ourselves. But, on the other hand, it does not seem worth while trying to grow anything in this country whilst the railway freight favours the foreigners.

A Fruitarian Philosopher.

The following advertisement is ingenious enough to be allowed to speak for itself:—

> Gentleman (Bachelor), 39, fruitarian, abstainer, non-smoker, fond of home, serious and sympathetic, seeks Position as Companion to a Lady; would advise, or assist in business.

We have no doubt that a person who restricts his diet to fruit would be quite harmless.

Will C. B. Fry be top scorer for England? See page 838.

Desdemona's Occupation.

An anti-Suffrage reader sends us an adaptation of one of the "Bab Ballads," apropos of the alarm of Father Paul when he learned that the gentle Alice Brown was engaged to a really respectable young man, and that there would probably be a diminution in the fees he had been in the habit of receiving for granting absolution to the family. It will be remembered that Father Paul is supposed to have remarked :—

> This dreadful piece of news will pain your worthy parents so!
> They are the most remunerative customers I know.
> For many, many years they've kept starvation from my doors,
> I never knew so criminal a family as yours!
> And if you marry anyone respectable at all—
> Why! you'll reform!—and what will then become of Father Paul!!!

Our correspondent suggests a parody, the last two lines of which read :—

> If our Female Suffrage measure on the statute book is seen,
> The "subs" will cease—And what will then become of Emmeline!!!

But surely "Votes for Women" does not exhaust the catalogue of their grievances. What about husbands, for instance—to say nothing of other cries which readily suggest themselves to the masculine mind?

More Scots Law!

The latest news to hand in reference to the little bit of Scotch litigation in which we have been engaged, and to which we have occasionally referred, is that our solicitors have been "forced to raise an action of multiplepoinding to obtain payment of the amount in the Fiscal's hands," and that "the Crown claim the money as res nullius and after debate of the Court at Hamilton the case was taken to avizandum." So *that's* all right. We seem to be winning.

Wanted, a Man.

Mad people have sometimes a certain gift of concentration. Here is an anonymous person who signs himself "One who knows and reads not Northcliffe or Cocoas," and submits "a few facts that have no doubt will interest you." And oddly enough they do : "Coronation time wooden gates sunk 5 feet by orders of Lord Kitchener (note this). Iron gates made same size, etc., now lying at Woolwich. Kitchener meets Cabinet Ministers abroad while British Revolution in distance (note this). Common sense will enable you to sum up. The only excuse for barricading London was the Coronation. I also forgot the Duke of Orleans has sold out his estate and that late King Manuel is away, and that Prince of Wales is learning France and French, and that Duke of Connaught is in Colonies and has visited the States, looks good does it not? A man we want." Our correspondent comes into that category.

Open Air Cafés.

While agreeing with us that open-air or open-to-air *cafés* in England would be a great improvement on public-houses, a Hornsea correspondent thinks we make too much of our climate being against them. "Take, for instance, Dunkirk," he says. We should be sorry to. But the climate is not the whole difficulty; English cities and towns have not been built for *café* life. Where, for instance, would one find room for open-air *cafés* in the streets of London—open-air, that is to say, in the sense of sitting out as in the boulevards of Paris? We can see no reason why the public-houses should not be turned into *cafés* open to the street—at any rate, in summer.

Angelic Views.

Mr. Norman Angell, whose well-advertised book, "The Great Illusion," contains a more or less clear account of his political delusions, has broken out in the ultra-hospitable columns of the *Daily Mail*. He is in a sense right when he declares that Parliamentary government has broken down—is a complete failure—but we take leave to challenge his statement when he says that "the failure of Parliamentary government is the natural history of the rise of Syndicalism." The failure of Parliamentary government is the natural corollary of our moribund and effete Party system. When the House of Commons is re-constituted on the lines of a Board of Directors of a Business nation, and every man has to prove that he knows his "job" before he is put in charge of a department, Syndicalism and all that it implies will fade away like the fabulous Cheshire cat, and industrial unrest will be no more—*because the cause of it will have been removed.*

Belgium Refuses to Budge.

The recent General Election in Belgium has caused quite a flutter amongst some of our Radical contemporaries, who naturally hoped for the victory of the Libero-Socialist party. But the result has left us cold. So long as the supply of Brussels sprouts and carpets is not interfered with, we have no objection to the Conservatives continuing to control the destinies of the Belge.

That Business Government.

Everybody now talks of the Business Government as an accepted item of current political controversy. Here is the Town Clerk of Cork interrupting a discussion at a recent meeting, with the observation, "Well, better change the Party Government and get the Business Government of Bottomley." After all, South Hackney has left some sort of mark on Parliamentary history.

A Poetic Licence.

There seems to be quite a number of people who claim the authorship of the beautiful poems which we quote from time to time. Here is a gentleman called G. H. Sprague, of Barnstaple, who begins :—"You Jellus Pig," and says, "I have read what you printed in your filthy rag about me poetasting I want know what you mean by publishg my verse what the King excepted without paying me I beg to inform you I am as good as what you be either in making pomes or anyway else if necessary the very idea of putting me down as a nuthause I could soon box you up in a nutshell theres a lot of people whats jellus of me because the King gracusly excepted my verses and that has insited me to do more and that will show you that G. H. Sprague is no nuthause of greenhouse so far as that goes me mentil caliber is more moral than yours that yours if you be John Bull. If I was near you I would knock your nut off." After that, he informs us that he is not "the best of educated men," which surprises us very much and almost amounts to a reflection upon his Majesty, who so graciously accepted the beautiful poetry.

Professor Churton Collins on Party.

"The evils and curses of Party government have, perhaps, never been so strikingly illustrated as in the history of Walpole's administration. The only important services he rendered his country were the result of great abilities, accidentally directed, in the course of a Party game, to beneficent and legitimate objects."—(From "Montesquieu in England.")

A cricket competition worth winning! See page 838.

PRAISE, INDEED!

Addressing a meeting at Newmarket the other day, in connection with a special effort on behalf of the East London Church Fund, the Vicar of Homerton, the Rev. S. Power, made the following touching references to ourselves:—

> We recently had an election in Homerton. Our honourable and respected member, Mr. Horatio Bottomley—you have heard the name—retired from the representation of that portion of Hackney, which includes Homerton, and retired to our sorrow and everybody's loss.

We also read flattering tributes in the North Hackney and Central Hackney *Liberal Magazines*. We had no idea that we had been such a good boy. Nothing like pretending to be dead if you want to hear yourself well spoken of!

VOTES FOR EVERYBODY.

For the moment, it is not clear whether there are to be any exceptions to the declaration that "every person over twenty-one who has resided or had occupation for six consecutive months in one place shall have one vote and one vote only." On the face of it, this includes Bill Sikes, who, having done his five years', and many odd "stretches" previously, comes out of gaol, settles down in one place for six months, votes at an election, cracks another crib, and goes in again.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

A lady of fashionable appearance, but mean habits, was called upon to pay the usual penny fare for a pet dog she carried on to a tramway car. After a great deal of useless argument she did so, but added:

"I suppose, since I have paid the fare, my dog is entitled to a seat?"

"Oh, certainly, madam," replied the conductor, "but, of course, only on the same terms as the other passengers—he must not put his feet on the seat."

TOWARDS A BUSINESS GOVERNMENT?

LORD HALDANE: "I think I feel more at home now."

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

["Taking the Biscuit" has become a classic phrase, expressive of a satirical reward or recognition. In this column we present, in all good humour, the token to such of our contemporaries and others as may have distinguished themselves by some unconventional utterance or act.]

For advertising in the "Daily Telegraph": "BOATING *excursions by sea,* ROAD, RAIL,"

THE ABERYSTWYTH LOCAL AUTHORITIES TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For advertising in their list of properties for sale and to let: "'*Inglenook,' Glenwood Road, West Moors,* SAME SIZE *as 'Argyll,' only* LARGER,"

MESSRS. BREWER BROS. (Estate Office, West Moors) TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a man awoke and discovered that "his WIFE *and son,* AGED EIGHT AND SEVEN YEARS *respectively, were missing from the house,"*

THE STAFFORDSHIRE SENTINEL TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that for selling baking powder which was adulterated "a LONDON TRADER WAS SOLD *at* 1S. 1D. *per lb.,"*

THE IRISH GROCERY WORLD TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising a cure for mosquitoes as "absolutely INJURIOUS *even to Babies and Invalids,"*

Mr. H. F. MILLER (24, Warwick Street, Worthing, Ironmonger) TAKES THE BISCUIT.

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*For reporting under the heading of "*WELL-KNOWN MAN *Drowned," the finding of a body which "*HAS NOT YET BEEN IDENTIFIED,"

THE MANCHESTER EVENING CHRONICLE TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of the Ascot Races that "From the station to the grand stand there extends a covered way, ABSOLUTELY WATERPROOF. . . . *For the elect a private and exclusive subway from the Royal enclosure to the train-side is* EVEN MORE WATERPROOF,"

THE DAILY NEWS AND LEADER TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that a woman was found unconscious, "attired only in her nightdress AND *pyjamas,"*

THE WESTERN MAIL TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising "Grand FREE *Concert and Dance* (TICKETS 6D. EACH),"

THE SECRETARY OF THE NATIONAL AMALGAMATED UNION OF SHOP ASSISTANTS, WARE HOUSEMEN AND CLERKS TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "Honk (a character in a story) was holding his hat on with ONE HAND *and* CHATTING GAILY *with* THE OTHER,"

THE RAILROAD MAN'S MAGAZINE TAKES THE BISCUIT.

HALF-A-CROWN FOR EVERY "BISCUIT" PUBLISHED.

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THE PROBLEM OF THE "LOVE-CHILD."

A PLEA FOR SIMPLE JUSTICE—THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FATHER—THE DUTY OF THE STATE.

BY PAUL ARUNDALE.

[The following article deals with one of the most difficult social problems of the time, and although we do not identify ourselves with some of the views expressed by our contributor, we gladly open our columns to the discussion of the question.]

One of the great problems of our social life—a problem vital to thousands of women and young girls in our country—is the position before the law and in the community of her fellow beings of the mother without marriage and the child of her shame. I say the "child of her shame," because that is the conventional way of putting it. The phrase expresses not only society's view of a normal physiological consequence arising out of an unconventional association, but also its attitude of scorn and contempt towards one of the partners to this social sin, and that partner the woman.

Yet, speaking as a man, I have long convinced myself that it is not the mother but the father who ought to bear the greater responsibility of the stigma. I would not humbug my conscience with the pretence that it is right that the man who ruins an innocent woman, becomes the father of her child, and then refuses to give her the conventional protection of his name and his home, should pass through the social world unscathed, while the woman, the passive instrument of his will, overcome by the heat of his insistence and the dominance of his power, in circumstances in which it is usually almost impossible for her to make an effective resistance, should become the target of social scorn and contumely, an outcast among "respectable" women, and the one responsible legal guardian of his child.

The Greater Sinner.

In any fair estimate of the responsibility for bringing a love child, as it is called, into the world, it must be acknowledged that the man is the greater sinner. Of all the thousands of innocent, loving women who have become mothers without marriage, how many are there who have solicited or lured men to accomplish their moral and social destruction? The solicitation of chastity is unthinkable. Nor is a girl for every man, but for one man only—the man she loves and who professes to love her. They walk out together, as it is called; often there is more or less of an engagement understood between them. At the girl's home or the man's home, it may be, there is the parlour, where parents, thinking no evil, mother trusting daughter as daughter trusts man, leave them to their amours. A gust of resistless, selfish, unconsidering passion sweeps over the man. Burning words, entreaties, a compulsion of physical force the more overwhelming the longer it is combated—tell me what chance virtue and innocence have in these common conditions. Tell me how much a woman's free, conscious, moral and physical self is concerned in them. Tell me why her part in them should merit all the blame and all the shame.

When Passion has Spent its Force.

Why, the man himself, when his passion has spent its force, can find nothing to blame in her, and if he does not marry her, his is the *crime* against her as long as ever she lives. He knows that hardly any other man will take her in marriage if he knows she is no longer pure. If no child comes she can hide her secret, but a mother without marriage—he knows very well she cannot hide *that*. The girl may plead from her sense of shame, from a broken heart and a mind tortured on the racks of hell, for him to marry her and make an honest woman of her—and, as a rule, she might as well plead to a stone. He has had from her without marriage, without responsibility, without cost, all he could have won in marriage, and why should he marry her now?

I have said he has won everything from her without responsibility and without cost, but of course I speak with a qualification. He may make a voluntary arrangement of a *few* shillings a week for the support of the child. He may compel her to prove her claim against him in open court and chance the award of a magistrate after he has hired a solicitor to defame her by cruel and brutal suggestions of association with other men. On the other hand, knowing that the girl wants to avoid the publicity of her shame, and her family the publicity of a scandal, he may do nothing; he may leave them to do with the child what they please. It is but infrequently realised what a claim for social and legal justice the unmarried mother and her child have upon the nation. I know it is the feeling of a great many good and overgood people that the only way to limit the social sin is to penalise the sinner. But the "sin" is not nearly equal. The man is always, or nearly always, the greater offender, and I say that to penalise the mother and the child and leave it possible for the father to go free, outrages every right conception of justice, human or divine.

Punishment Unfitting to Crime.

As Miss Smith-Rossie points out in her interesting and illuminative article on "The Love Child in Germany and Austria," which she contributes to a recent number of the *English Review*, approximately 50,000 illegitimate children are born into this country every year. In the last statistical year 37,000 were born in England and Wales, and 8,472 in Scotland. Take what view of all this wrong-doing you will—and women are notoriously harder in the merely conventional sense upon the fallen sister than men are—what about all this wrong-suffering? Are not the social and legal penalties put upon these unmarried women and innocent unfathered babies in monstrous excess of what they ought to bear? Preach as one may, I believe that as long as men are men a certain number of women will fall victims to their uncontrolled lust and passion, the women being victims in most cases, at any rate, of their love for the betrayers. Regarding them as victims, as almost innocent victims, as I assuredly do, I hold that society should adjust its relations towards them in a fuller and completer justice. Society ought to take the responsibility and the burden from the woman and put it upon the man. The child should bear its father's name, it should be placed under the guardianship of the State at his expense until capable of earning a livelihood or until he marries, when he should be entitled to assume active parental relations in regard to it, and it should be legitimised on the marriage of the two parents responsible for its birth. The effect of this would be, as to the mother, that the social stigma would no more be hers alone, that she would be able to earn her own living without being solely burdened with the care and education of the child, and she would have a better chance of marriage, if she wished, with the father. As to the man, it would probably act as a brake on his passions by enforcing a sense of responsibility, compel him to adopt ethical relations of parenthood towards his child, and induce him to repair in marriage the wrong to his child's mother, concluding that if the child was to bear his name it might as well come into the influences of a home common to both; while as to the child, always sinless in the case, there would be removed from it the stigma of its "shameful" birth and the legal disabilities from which it suffers.

Even if it were true, though statistics prove otherwise, that the love child were predisposed to perdition, I should still urge that it was entitled to its father's name and its father's direct responsibility in up-bringing, whether or not it ever shared its father's home. The claim of the unmarried mother and her offspring is one to simple justice. As long as the nation denies it, it perpetrates a cruel wrong.

If you follow cricket see page 838.

CROYDON MENTAL HOSPITAL.

A MEDICAL OFFICER'S LORDLY LIVING—SALARIES DOUBLED IN TEN YEARS.

The committee who purport to control the affairs of the Croydon Mental Hospital, at Warlingham, Surrey, have just given an account of their stewardship to the Croydon County Council, and their conduct, as shown by that voluminous document, almost justifies compulsory residence in their own institution, under the charge of the Medical Superintendent, whom they permit to live in such magnificence at the expense of the ratepayers and inmates.

Dr. E. S. Pasmore was appointed Medical Superintendent in 1902 at a salary of £450 a year, with free residence; fuel, light, washing and provisions, valued by the committee—or very much undervalued, considering the circumstances—at £250. At the present time the salary alone has been more than doubled, and amounts to a clear thousand a year, while the emoluments are now worth nearly another thousand pounds to him.

Last year Dr. Pasmore had, at the hospital's expense, about 2,000 pints of milk, 156 pounds of butter, 1,936 eggs, 101 chickens, and 13 ducks—this in addition to meat and groceries. Then, besides having a season ticket between London and Warlingham, the use of which the Chairman of the Committee, when asked, could not define, the Medical Superintendent enjoys the use of a motor-car, with a chauffeur; and also a carriage and pair. The doctor's domestic staff, we hear, consists of three maids and a "boy" (whose age is 26). Salaries, board and uniforms for these servants cost the institution £149 18s. 6d. He can also claim the services of part of the female staff of the hospital—and has availed himself of the privilege.

It seems remarkable that no account is kept of the private patients received—the fees being kept by the doctor. No account, again, is taken of the fines—ranging from 3d. to 10s.—imposed on the staff for misdemeanours.

There are, too, in the accounts figures not vouched by the Auditors. Taken altogether, the medical officer seems to be on very good terms with the Committee, and if he is on as good terms with his staff, it is small wonder that the Chairman has had a presentation made to him.

"IS IT CHEAPER TO BE DEAD?"

THE VICAR REPLIES TO OUR ENQUIRY.

We have received a breezy letter from the Rev. Fredk. W. Hewitt, Vicar of St. Mary's, Brixton, South Devon, in reply to our recent paragraph calling attention to the scale of fees for burial in his churchyard, from which we extract the following:—

As Vicar of St. Mary's Church, Brixton, S. Devon, and inheritor of the table of burial charges you are good enough to quote, I have naturally read with some interest the paragraph which appears in your issue of the 15th inst. under the above heading. You have certainly touched upon a subject which, in these days of strikes, grievances, and unrest, is enough "to make the dead turn in their graves," although, as a matter of fact, it is the living rather than the dead who are wickedly called upon to pay the fees of which you complain.

You ask the question: "*Is* it cheaper to be dead?" and I unhesitatingly answer "Yes," for what with the present exorbitant death duties, insurance, Mr. Lloyd George's taxes, and the like, it is much *better* to be where "the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest"!

When the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and the Bishop of the Diocese, in setting their seal of sanction to the terrible outparishioner fees which we presumably extort, *they did so with the idea of safeguarding us from an overcrowded churchyard.*

We are close to the Three Towns—Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport—with their teeming populations and honeycombed cemeteries, and, naturally, if a Plymothian might prefer to lay his bones in "God's Acre" attached to our country parish church, rather than in close proximity to the roar of the Home Park football crowd, or the ever-encroaching houses of enterprising builders of the rapidly growing estates, it does not seem unreasonable that his friends should be asked to pay a little more for the quiet and peace of the country, the singing of the birds, etc., etc.

P.S.—I see no mention in the table of fees which you publish of the charge made for the burial of a parishioner in an *ordinary* grave, which, by the way, is the type of grave that our people are *usually* buried in. It may interest some of your readers to know that this amounts to the sum of three shillings and sixpence!

A LAPSE FROM RIGHTEOUSNESS.

SAD FALL OF THE OLD LADY OF BOUVERIE STREET.

It is well that we should sometimes take a rest, smoke our pipe, and look backwards. Here, for instance, is the official handbook of the Baptist Union for 1905. It is plentifully interleaved with advertisements, and, in view of present-day events, we reproduce one of its pages:—

WHAT MORNING PAPER DO YOU READ?

This country is cursed by the operations of a vicious Press. Dangers to the Commonwealth, dangers to morality and to liberty, are involved in its existence. The thought of the nation is debauched by it. Every evil institution is fed by it. I have never ceased to thank God for the *Daily News* since it passed into the hands that control it now. It is pure. It is honest. It makes for peace. It has ideals. The stand which *The Daily News* has taken against the drink evil and the gambling evil should, if this were all, command admiration and gratitude amongst good citizens. But all the moral movements of our time are stronger for its championship. The social reformer, the Christian citizen, must support the *Daily News* to the full extent of his influence, for the support of the *Daily News* is invariably given to him.—CHARLES F. AKED, D.D., Liverpool.

The Christian public are anxiously looking to the *Daily News* for a solution of the problem: Can a daily newspaper without betting or turf news and drink advertisements be made to pay? We trust that the Christian public, whether they agree politically or disagree, will so support the *Daily News* as to make it evident that they approve of this noble effort, and also that such a paper can hasten the time when all the great newspapers can be made to "pay" on like lines. Thus they will be freed from complicity with the national evils which are destroying thousands of our young people every year. The present circulation of 200,000 copies per day will do much to stem this current of evil, but what an object-lesson it would be if it could be raised to a million copies a day!—Extract from the *Methodist Recorder.*

If you do not approve of horse-racing, betting, or turf news, change your paper to-morrow morning for the *Daily News.*

Picking up our regenerated *Daily News*, we find a column of "Ascot Notes," with probable starters and jockeys for the Royal Hunt Cup. In another column the full programme for Ascot is published; and in yet another column the full results of the previous day's racing! We note also that the *nom de plume* of the sporting correspondent is "Uno." Possibly you do. But what we should like to know is whether the Baptist Union *know* that the *Daily News* now devotes a certain portion of its space to "horrible and degrading" turf news.

A WIGGING FOR WIGAN.

WHAT A POOR DOG-LOVER ENDURED.

No grievances are too small for us to take up. Here is the case of a lady who was summoned for keeping a dog without a licence. Her fine, it is true, was only a shilling, but twelve shillings for costs is out of all proportion. Trade being bad, her husband being ill and her family of nine requiring support, she could pay only 5s. 6d. down, and she asked the assistant clerk to give her a little time. He seems to have satisfied her that all would be well, but on the following Thursday two constables came after she had gone to bed and demanded sixteen shillings. As she did not happen to have that amount in the house she was made to get up and go to the police station, where she was detained until the money could be found. This seems to be a very high-handed, indeed tyrannical, way of treating a lady who has been a ratepayer for the last eighteen years. Ratepayers, however, appear to be willing to stand almost anything.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.

A Test Match competition. See page 838.

THE FINANCE OF STATE INSURANCE.

By T. Good.

[In view of the approaching date for the commencement of the operation of the Act, Mr. Good, a recognised authority on the subject, directs attention to the £ s. d. of the scheme.]

I have in previous articles dealt with the scandal of the Post Office section of the Act, the illusory character of the unemployment part, and some other aspects; but now that the date of inauguration is approaching, and people are taking a more lively interest in the scheme—especially in view of the fact that many of those most vitally affected have not time to analyse its provisions, but have to rely largely upon pamphlets, leaflets, etc., issued under questionable authority—I desire to deal more fully with the matter.

A Timely Warning.

Before it is too late, I want every working man reader of John Bull, every friend of the workers, and every lover of social justice, of political purity, and of administrative efficiency, to face the situation created by this Act fairly and squarely—get down to the bed-rock facts—and then refuse absolutely to touch the scheme. This is no ordinary Act of Parliament. The Government had no mandate for this measure. It differs so vitally and vastly from what was promised, and is so cruelly unjust, that it ought to be defied. Hundreds of clubs and societies, which give real sick benefits and funeral benefits, are dissolving in anticipation of a scheme which, it will be found, will yield very little sick pay, and no funeral benefits; widows and orphans are being robbed; hospitals and medical charities are losing their revenue; many sound and economically conducted agencies for the relief and prevention of distress due to sickness are being broken up to make room for a costly fraud. It is time to stop the rot. At any rate, it is time to count the cost and consider the consequences.

Income Under the Scheme.

Under the sickness part of this scheme, assuming our workers submit to it, there will be, say, 15,000,000 compulsory contributors. Allowing for an average of about five weeks a year for arrears due to sickness, unemployment, etc., and allowing that the joint contributions for the remaining 47 weeks will be rather less than 9d. per head per week—the alleged 2d. from the State not being 2d., but only two-ninths of the benefits in most cases—the gross income cannot exceed £26,000,000 a year. Taking the average sickness period of the 15,000,000 insured persons at three weeks a year—the average will certainly be higher than that of the friendly societies, with their selected lives—we shall require, at 10s. a week, £22,500,000 for sick pay. Of course, some of the insured will not be entitled to so much as 10s. a week, but, on the other hand, the maternity benefit must be reckoned in, so that at least £22,500,000 will be required for sick pay, including maternity pay. But where is it to come from, as the scheme stands?

A Serious Shortage.

Assuming that a settlement is arrived at with the doctors, and that attendance and drugs combined can be obtained at an average of 8s. per head, this will absorb £6,000,000 a year. Add to that £1,500,000 for sanatoria, and £7,500,000 has to come off the £26,000,000, leaving a balance of £18,500,000, or £4,000,000 less than is needed for cash benefits alone. Of course, there will be the proceeds of the first half-year's probationary period; but, on the other hand, there is the cost of administration to come off, and as this may be deducted at the commencement of each calendar year, it is serious. This, indeed, is the most serious financial aspect of the scheme.

In every county and county borough there will be an insurance committee, consisting of from 40 to 80 members. Their duties will be heavy, and highly complicated. A list of them would fill pages of this journal. By the Act the local insurance committees are empowered to appoint a district committee for about every 15,000 persons, so we may have about 3,000 of these committees, with their secretaries, inspectors, sick visitors, auditors, referees, etc., etc. It is impossible to imagine that these local administrative bodies will work at a less cost than 3s. per insured person per annum. It is highly probable the cost will be at least twice that figure. But we will put it at 3s. That will absorb another £2,250,000 a year.

Hitting the Approved Societies.

Now we come to the additional cost that will be imposed upon the approved societies. Mr. Lloyd George himself has admitted that "the bulk of the work will fall upon the societies." There seems no end to the trouble and expense put upon the societies. Some trade unions will have to keep eight sets of books in every branch. Some friendly societies will have to keep over a dozen sets. They have to split up their funds and management; they have to recast their rules; they have to get out long lists of particulars of members over 65 years of age; lists of members' incomes and how they are earned; lists of members making other societies their approved ones for the purposes of the Act; lists of benefits, alternative benefits, and additional benefits; rules for all the separate branches; accounts for separate branches; separate valuations, etc., etc. Moreover, not only their books and accounts, but the times and places of their meetings and the appointments of their sick visitors are all subject to the regulations of officials they do not themselves elect or control.

"Anything They Deem Fit."

It is quite clear that the ordinary lodge officers will not be able to cope with the work, and that the work cannot be done at the price fixed—3s. 8d. per head. Any failure on the part of the societies to comply with the vast multitude of rules and regulations laid down by the committees and commissioners, and the complicated provisions of the Act, involves the surrender of books, funds, management and everything to the State jacks-in-office, who can step in and cut down the benefits, impose levies, and generally domineer the members as they like—as the Act says, the committees can do "anything they deem fit." And what about the cost?

Mr. Buyers Black, official representative of the Insurance Commissioners, in a recent lecture at Glasgow, estimated that the approved societies would need about 50,000 "trained secretaries," 50,000 presidents, 750,000 committeemen, and 500,000 sick visitors. If we assume that these "trained secretaries" are paid £250 a year apiece—only as much as a "minor staff clerk" to the Insurance Commissioners, already appointed, be it observed—another £12,500,000 a year will be absorbed. Allowing next for the remuneration of the presidents, committeemen, and visitors—and these will not work as cheaply under a State as a voluntary scheme; allowing for the costs of employing more actuaries and solicitors in an effort to meet the requirements of the law and of the bureaucrats; and then striking off the existing costs of administration of the societies, on their voluntary and simply managed lines, it is a moderate estimate to say that the difference in cost will be £10,000,000 a year.

A Sorry Position.

Now we have got a balance sheet something like this:—

Gross annual income of Fund		£26,000,000
Deduct:		
Doctors and drugs	£6,000,000	
Sanatoria	1,500,000	
Local committees' expenses	2,250,000	
Approved societies' extra expenses	10,000,000	
		19,750,000
Balance		£6,250,000

This balance, even if there is such a balance, will not yield an average of one week's sick pay in twelve months. And there are no death benefits. Yet this is the scheme for which hospitals and medical charities, open free to the poor, are to run risk of bankruptcy; for which trade unions and friendly societies are to be put under the iron heel of Whitehall; and for which hundreds of splendid sick and funeral clubs are dissolving; widows robbed to give £30 a week salaries to Government officials; this is the shadow for which the substance is being dropped; this is the gigantic and cruel fraud to be imposed upon the poor by the consent, approval and active assistance of the Labour Party! *Will the working classes stand it?*

Next week we shall commence a series of articles, giving the other side of the question.

Your favourite batsman may win you £100. See page 838.

THE CLAPHAM MURDER.

DRAMATIC MOVE IMMINENT.

In our issue of January 27th last we stated that in order to obtain Morrison's release exhaustive enquiries were being made by Mr. Claude Lumley, who, with Mr. Abinger, so ably conducted his defence. Last week—five months after our intimation—the daily Press notified the public that developments in the case might soon be expected. Rather late, but nevertheless true.

Fifteen months ago the public mind was greatly excited by one of the most sensational and remarkable criminal trials of recent times, known, from its principal actor, as the Morrison case. The bells had barely finished ringing in the year 1911 with gladsome clang when a fearful scene was enacted on Clapham Common. A middle-aged man was struck down by some blunt, heavy instrument and robbed of his watch and chain and any other articles of value he may have carried on his person. The miscreant was not content with robbery and murder, but afterwards covered the body of his victim with stabs, and inflicted upon the face some long knife slashes, described as resembling the letter "S." A week later the police arrested at an East End restaurant a young Russian Jew, calling himself in this country Stinie Morrison.

After a long and dramatic trial, at which figured prominently, amongst the host of witnesses, several cabmen who deposed to driving the prisoner to and from various places which the prosecution alleged enabled the prisoner to be present at the scene of the crime at the time of its perpetration, and P.C. Greaves, who, in his evidence, made some remarkable allegations concerning his comrades in the force, Morrison was convicted and sentenced to death.

An application to the Court of Criminal Appeal again raised public interest to fever height—never has a case within recent times created such long sustained interest and excitement. The Court sat for three days, during which Mr. Abinger, the prisoner's Counsel, made a remarkable, but fruitless, effort to induce their Lordships to reverse the result of the trial.

After the refusal of an application to appeal further to the House of Lords, a petition signed by some 70,000 persons was presented to the Home Secretary praying for a reprieve. Mr. Churchill, however, with his characteristic energy, did not wait for it to be lodged, but respited the execution.

And so matters have apparently drifted—as we stated so long ago as January 27th last—though Mr. Claude Lumley and Mr. Abinger, Morrison's Solicitor and Counsel respectively, have never wavered in their firm opinion that the facts of the case have never been fully brought to light, and have been unrelenting in their efforts to obtain Morrison's freedom.

Miss Brodsky, Morrison's sweetheart, has remained true to him. Though in a humble station she, with assistance, has managed to go twice to Dartmoor for interviews with the prisoner. Morrison, upon these occasions, vehemently re-asserted his innocence, and the believers in him are nerving themselves for another effort on his behalf. It appears that there has now been brought to light new and important material which goes to show that the evidence of one of the principal witnesses for the prosecution could not possibly have been correct in regard to several vital particulars. Mr. Lumley, we understand, feels confident that if he is permitted to place on record these new facts, collected with so much unwearying exertion, the result will be either the quashing after all this time of the awful sentence, or the intervention of the Home Secretary to order Morrison's release. Those who have already done so much for him are convinced that he has been the victim of a great miscarriage of justice, and may be relied upon to leave no stone unturned in his interests.

Both Mr. Claude Lumley and Mr. Abinger are confident that they are at length on the point of vindicating the innocence of their client, and an important application is about to be made to reopen the case. The result will be awaited with profound interest.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.

PICTURE PALACES AND PANICS.

WHERE THE L.C.C. SEEMS TO EMULATE THE BOGUS BOARD.

From time to time we have called the attention of individual proprietors of cinematograph shows to the obstruction of the gangways by an overflow of people. In these individual cases improvement has followed for a time, but we are told the County Council does not enforce its regulations as to overcrowding. As we understand it, a place of amusement is not permitted under the bye-laws of the Council to overcrowd its accommodation. It is built to seat so many people at certain prices, and surely it is self-evident that anyone paying for a seat is not only entitled to that seat, but is entitled to claim that his life and limb shall not be jeopardised by the blockage and obstruction of the gangways on the part of people allowed by the management in the building after the seats are filled.

If the inspectors of the Council will take the trouble to enter some of these cinematograph houses, they will discover that the obstruction is so flagrant as to constitute an ever-present danger in case of fire or panic. We therefore think it right to place on record this explicit public warning because we are as confident as we can be of anything that sooner or later London will have to lament a serious calamity in one of these places. It may be that the powers of the L.C.C. and local Councils are insufficient, but if so, it does seem remarkable that while the gangways of theatres and music-halls are, with some not less alarming exceptions, kept unobstructed under bye-laws, ingress and egress *in the dark* may be obstructed with impunity by those responsible for the conduct of picture shows. If the Council or Councils have not powers it is time they obtained them, and having got them, enforced them with scrupulous strictness in the interests of the public, who have not less the right to demand conditions of safety from managers and proprietors of entertainments to whom they accord patronage than from the representatives whom they elect to manage and control the civic affairs of the great metropolis.

Surely the Council cannot be emulating the Board of Trade by waiting for a disaster—say, such as happened at the Paris Bazaar some years ago.

UNCLAIMED BALANCES IN CANADA.

PRAISEWORTHY THEORY AND BLAMEWORTHY METHOD.

A man residing at Moose Jaw, Canada, died there in the General Hospital from typhoid fever. His relations in England failed to obtain any particulars about his death, and the landlady with whom he had lodged took no notice of letters. The hospital authorities contented themselves with stating that "Charles Sewell was admitted delirious and unable to give any particulars as to his parents," etc., and that he left no will.

The parents then bombarded the Public Administrator of Moose Jaw, forwarding copies of all sorts of documents, birth certificates, marriage certificates, etc., but received no satisfaction. They have ascertained that his savings were deposited in two banks out there, but the Public Administrator contents himself with stating that he wishes to settle up the estate at the earliest possible moment. Nearly two years has elapsed since the death and "the earliest possible moment" is still far distant.

An enquiry at the office of the High Commissioner for Canada elicited the information that "those matters were better arranged in Canada, even better than here." A suggestion at the High Commissioner's office to apply to a Government official in Regina brought the reply that the matter would be settled "in a week or so," but nothing further has been heard, nor have the relatives received a single penny out of the property of the deceased.

We are invited to say what we think of this method of doing business, but our vocabulary, vigorous as it is considered by some, is quite unequal to such an occasion.

For "Nerves" and Worry, the Scientific Cure, strongly recommended by Mr. Horatio Bottomley.

"BRAININE."

Of all Chemists and Stores, 1/1½ and 2/9.

England and South Africa. £100 for someone.

PARSONS AND "PROVIDENCE."

HOW CAPITAL WAS MADE OUT OF THE "TITANIC" DISASTER.

By E. M. Appleton.

There was never yet a great disaster which some much daring individual did not attempt to father upon the Almighty.

Pepys tell us that in the year of the Great Plague and Fire of London there were many who looked upon these calamities as a judgment of God, drawn down upon them by the wickedness of the Court of Charles II. Strange to say, Pepys was not of that galley. If, he said, the blame lay at the door of the Court, surely the Almighty would punish the Court, and would not wreak vengeance upon thousands of innocent women and children.

After the appalling Martinique disaster, there were not lacking notable divines who preached eloquent sermons in which they attempted to prove that the earthquake was in reality the voice of God protesting against the wickedness of the inhabitants of that country. This, in spite of the fact that the only survivor was a criminal, who, lying in his cell under sentence of death, was thus enabled to escape the general ruin!

After the Tay Bridge disaster, many Scotch divines shook their heads and pointed to the fact that the train was travelling on the Sabbath, which, according to their way of thinking, was sufficient to account for the tragedy.

So that when the world was startled by the loss of the *Titanic*, I was quite prepared for an aftermath of vapid eloquence which should attempt to father the disaster upon the Almighty. I was not disappointed. On the first Monday morning after the full horror had become public knowledge the papers were full of extracts taken from sermons preached on the previous day—extracts many of which fully confirmed my prophecy.

As it would be quite impossible to deal with many of the gems of oratory, let us content ourselves with the remarks of the Rev. F. S. Myers, of Newcastle. Let it be understood that I do not mean to imply that every sermon preached upon the disaster was in the same strain. Many ministers were content to bow the head in dignified sorrow. And yet, again, many were not. The Rev. Myers is an example of the latter class, and his sermon is typical of many others.

Dealing at some length with the luxurious fittings of the *Titanic*, he remarked: "Ten miners, all with wives and children, working for a long weary year, would earn among them £780. That was the price of one cabin on the *Titanic* for less than a week. In a world where all were well off, such waste would be a wicked thing, but in a world where so many were starving, it was an insult to their fellow-men, and an insult to God. It seemed to him that *God had put out His hand and said to the most flagrant example of the disease (luxury), 'I will not suffer it.' It was a judgment of God.* He would not suffer sins to go on their way unchecked."

Now, it is the latter part of these remarks to which I object. The fact of immense luxury side by side with appalling poverty is one of the worst features of modern civilisation. But does any sane man imagine for one moment that the *Titanic* tragedy is God's way of drawing the world's attention to the phenomenon? The Christian ideal of the Almighty is that of the "Loving Father." Imagine even a human father saying to one of his children: "My son, you have too many toys, whilst your sister has none. I will therefore give *you* a sound thrashing, and *sever the right hand of your sister* so that the wickedness of your position may be brought home to you." The thing is unthinkable. Yet that is what the Rev. Myers would have us believe. Look at the facts of the case. The figures show that those saved include 63 per cent. of the first class, 42 per cent. of the second, and only 25 per cent. of the third. Further, 53 children and 81 women belonging to the third class were drowned.

That fact alone is sufficient to give the lie to the assertion that the disaster was a protest against the luxury of the first-class passengers. The hymn tells us that God moves in a mysterious way, but I would beg leave to protest that it is not a diabolical way. I recall a sermon I once heard, in which the parson was trying to impress on us the dangers of wealth. He told of how, on one occasion, he spent a week-end with a rich patron. "The house was sumptuously furnished," he said, "and fitted with all the modern luxuries, including the electric light and a Turkish bath. The week after my visit, I read in my paper how the owner had been carried off by an attack of heart disease." Such a theory of life will not work, my brothers. God is not incensed by electric light and Turkish baths. He is no Oriental monarch whose capricious nod dooms men and women to destruction. Neither does he interfere between man and man. Is it not written, "He maketh His sun to shine upon the evil and the good"? The enormity of the *Titanic* disaster has blinded the eyes of such as Mr. Myers to the facts of everyday existence. Think of the accidents which are happening every day, year in and year out. During the last ten years, more than five thousand railwaymen have met with violent deaths during the pursuit of their calling. I have yet to hear of the clergyman who puts this down to the Almighty's indignation against first-class railway passengers.

Perhaps the worst example of blasphemy which this awful disaster has given rise to, I took from the columns of the *Daily News*. It was entitled, "A gruesome prayer and its answer." It appears that Mr. Whiteley, a first-class steward, was knocked into the sea, but managed to get hold of a wardrobe. To this he clung, until at daybreak when the sun arose he saw a collapsible raft in the distance, black with men, all standing up. He swam to it, but they would not let him on board. "'It's thirty-one lives against yours,' they said. 'You cannot come aboard; there's no room.' Then, I confess, I prayed that somebody on that raft might die so that I might take his place," says Mr. Whiteley, "and someone did die. Then they let me on board." So you see, one Christian man prayed that another might die, and his prayer was answered!

Will some Bishop kindly explain, or perhaps the Rev. Myers may feel equal to the task. For my part, I think it a revolting piece of blasphemy.

A Lesson from Australia.

A correspondent recalls a remarkable incident which occurred some years ago in Australia. In the year 1881 a dreadful railway disaster happened on a Sunday afternoon, and a large number of people were killed and injured. The Racing Carnival of Sydney, the Australian Jockey Club Spring Meeting, commenced on the Monday—it was Easter Monday. At the same time there was a great Camp Festival of the Salvation Army and temperance people at the town of Young, which is situated on the railway line to Sydney. By a special train which left Melbourne on the Saturday night all the chief "bookies" and the racing fraternity travelled in saloons in the front part. The Salvation Army and temperance people going to the great rally were in the tail-end of the train. Directly the racing fraternity got settled they began gambling, playing cards, dice, etc. The good people in the rearward carriages started singing their Hallelujahs with a musical "corrobberree," and this they continued till the train neared Cootamundra, when suddenly it rushed into a washaway over a creek, and was wrecked. The scenes were too ghastly to dilate on, but in the end it was found that all the victims were amongst the Salvation Army religious and temperance people, and not one of the racing fraternity had sustained the slightest injury, and, strange to say, all of them set to work rendering aid to the injured, whilst all the money on the saloon tables was picked up and handed to a fund for the sufferers! Now here was a corker for "Stiggins." So like Brer Fox and the Tar Baby they "lay low and said nuffin." Would that the "Chadbands" and "Stigginses" did likewise with regard to the *Titanic* disaster!

A Test Match competition. See page 838.

THE PARTY GAME.

HOW IT IS PLAYED BY THE PRESS.

One of the explanations of the hold which the Party system has upon the British public is the fact that, as a rule, the man in the street never takes more than one daily paper, and that invariably with the same Party colour. Hence he becomes obsessed with the idea that one particular set of views is the only true gospel and that everything else is either stupid or unpatriotic. We have sometimes endeavoured to disillusion him by giving quotations in parallel columns from rival Party papers dealing with the same public events, and we now propose to continue this practice, on a somewhat larger scale. We take this week the recent debate in the House of Commons upon the proposal that the Irish Parliament should consist of one chamber only.

The *Daily News and Leader*—which we need scarcely say is a strong Liberal organ—describes the action of the Conservatives as a "Gilbertian episode," and says that the Government proposal was "favoured by a majority of 89." It refers to Mr. Balfour's "special pleading," and satirically observes that Mr. Long "naïvely informed the House that Members have sometimes different reasons for voting in the same lobby." It was, however, absolutely silent upon the fact that Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, speaking for the Labour Party, who as a body are opposed to any Second Chamber, explained that there were "special reasons in this case for voting in the same lobby as those who are opposed to Single-Chamber government."

The *Daily Express*—Conservative—describes the action of the Liberals as Party before principle, taunts Mr. Redmond with "pleading with the Labour Party and with Single-Chamber Liberals to pocket their convictions," refers to the "twisting and turning of the Labour Party," and to its action in supporting the Two-Chamber clause when Mr. Keir Hardie and Mr. O'Grady both had amendments on the paper for its abolition, gloats over Mr. Bonar Law's merciless ridicule of the Liberal policy, and sneers at the Government's whipped-up majorities.

The *Daily Chronicle*—another Liberal organ—speaks of the Government majority being "highly satisfactory" and of its reaching "the respectable total of 89." It then gives the whole game away by answering the taunt of the Opposition that the Labour Party had always advocated Single-Chamber government and its question as to how it could now "consistently support the creation of a Second Chamber in Ireland," with the simple rejoinder, "You're another." It says "the Opposition impaled itself on one of the horns of the very dilemma on which it wanted to impale the Labour Party," and then proceeds to point out that "in season and out of season the Conservatives have been protesting their devotion to the bicameral system of Government." In other words, it admits that both Parties were equally inconsistent. It then goes on unconsciously to show up further the farce, by complimenting Mr. Ramsay Macdonald upon his "adroit" action, and tells us that he "knows every move in the game."

The *Daily Mail*—Conservative—on the other hand, speaks of "runaway Labour" and of the Labour Party "overthrowing one of their fundamental principles."

Then we have the *Telegraph*—another Opposition organ—describing the efforts of Mr. Asquith and Mr. Birrell to justify the Government policy as highly entertaining, and stigmatising such policy as "a sham, a dismal, melancholy sham." Whilst, so far as Mr. Ramsay Macdonald is concerned "if ever a man looked vexed with himself and fate, that man was Mr. Ramsay Macdonald."

And so the merry game goes on.

TREATMENT OF LUNATICS.

We have frequently called attention to the grave scandals in connection with the treatment of the inmates of lunatic asylums. An interesting report now reaches us in reference to the death, at the East Sussex County Asylum, Hellingly, of a man who was discovered dead in the padded room, with fractured ribs and a broken jaw. We shall have more to say about the matter later on.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—CC.

[In this column, every week, we publish particulars of some human derelict whose case, after full investigation, we are able to recommend to the charity of our readers. We are happy to say that in this way we have already been the means of bringing comfort into many a wretched home. All amounts subscribed are duly acknowledged, and no deduction of any kind is made by us.]

A NAVAL PETTY OFFICER'S SAD POSITION.

If some of our kind and benevolent readers could help to save a starving family whose few sticks of furniture are on the eve of being sold up, we are sure their charity would not be misplaced. The man is an ex-naval petty officer and steward, who has served his country for twelve years. He was invalided home through paralysis, which he contracted while he was serving at the Hong Kong hospital as sick attendant. On his arrival in England he was in hospital for a year, and underwent a very severe operation. He is 35, and has a wife and three little children, aged 13, 11 and 8 years. He is now able to do light work, such as housekeeper, night watchman, or any position of trust, and has the highest references and testimonials, including one from Lord Charles Beresford and the officers under whom he served. His wife has just come out of hospital, after a stay there of 14 months, where she underwent an operation on one of her legs. She is able now to work again, and is seeking a situation as bar manageress at an hotel or theatre—a post for which she is eminently suited, as she was 12 months at the Central Hotel, Portsmouth, and afterwards for about the same period at the Empire Theatre in that town. The youngest child has just been discharged from hospital, where she was ill for 10 weeks with chorea. The poor man's pay and pension were stopped owing to his enforced stay in hospital, and the whole family is now practically starving.

We have received the following amounts, which we have duly forwarded to the subjects of the "Human Documents":—

CXCIII.—Z. M. N., 2s. 6d.
CXCVI.—T. A., 5s.
CXCVII.—"Walter," 5s.; A. B., 5s.
CXCVIII.—"Old Soldier," 1s.; H. J. H., 2s.; "A Servant," 5s.; E. A. R., 1s.; A. B., 5s.; H. J. G., 10s.; "Leeds," 2d.; "Two Furry Wombats," 2s. 6d.; "Agnostic," 1s.; H. H., 1s.
CXCIX.—J. T., 2s. 6d.; "Nugget," 2s. 6d.

OUR COLLECTING BOXES.

By the kindness of many of our readers we are enabled to add to our "Human Document" fund by means of collecting boxes, which they are good enough to place on their premises. We shall be glad to hear from others willing to assist in this work.

LONDON.—Mr. J. Green, 82, Abbey Street, Bermondsey, ½d.; Mr. W. Bartlett, 85, Rolt Street, Deptford, ½d.; Mr. H. Ault, 7, Albany Street, Camberwell, 6d.; Mr. H Ash, 156, Western Street, S.E., 4d.; Mr. E. Harley (Bridge and Co.) 48, Brompton Road, S.W., 1s.; "Anonymous," 2s. 10½d.; Mrs. Catherine, The Cherry Tree, Bermondsey, 6d.; Mr. C. Butcher, Admiral Hawke, 191, Jamaica Road, Bermondsey, 6d.; Mr. E. H. Westley, The Castle, Old Kent Road, S.E., 9d.; Mr. H. Bowden, 12, Lillie Road, Fulham, 2½d.; Mr. A. Heath, 16, Seagrave Road, Fulham, 8d.; Mr. E. Block, Coopers' Arms, Flood Street, Chelsea, 2d.; Mr. E. Butt, The Rose, 86, Fulham Road, S.W., 2s. 6d.; Mr. I. Goldstein, Bedford Arms, 1, Sandland Street, W.C., 2d.; Mr. A. Harry, 37, Warden Road, Kentish Town, N.W., 2d.; Mrs. Carolan, The Crown, Prince of Wales Road, N.W., 1d.; Mr. P. Samuels, Camden Stores, 78, Park Street, Camden Town, 4d.; Mr. J. Money, 28, Pimlico Road, S.W., 6½d.; Mr. A. J. Blowes, The Colville, King's Road, Chelsea, 3s.; Mr. H. Atkin, 5, Penton Street, N.W., 2½d.; The West End Hotel, Coventry Street, W., 2s. 8½d.; "Anonymous," 1d.; Mr. W. R. Talbot, Borough Market, S.E., 6½d.; Mr. A. Huth, 94, East Street, Walworth, 9d.; Mrs. Beare, 440, Southwark Park Road, S.E., 9½d.; Mr. A. Skinner, 116, New Kent Road, S.E., 1d.; Mr. F. Pavey, 63, Long Lane, Bermondsey, S.E., 6d.; Mr. G. Hall, Black Horse, 254, Tabard Street, Bermondsey, 1s.; Mr. F. W. Pile, 33, Southwark Bridge Road, S.E., 1s. 2d.; Mr. W. H. Deathe, 1s, Marshalsea Road, Southwark, S.E., 1d.; Mrs. Charlesworth, 99, London Road, S.E., 7d.; Mr. F. Huggins, Brunswick Arms, Stamford Street, S.E., 1s. 6½d.; "Teddy Bear," The Angel, High Street, Bloomsbury, 6d.; Mr. A. Boltslawser, 151, Drury Lane, W.C., 7d.; Mr. C. Sandom, Cross Keys, Endell Street, W.C., 6d.; Charing Cross Hotel, W.C., 7d.; Messrs. Cohen and Co., 446, Strand, W.C., 3d.; Mr. L. Beurier, 28, Orange Street, W.C., 3½d.; Mr. G. Brauner, 5, Southampton Row, W.C., 2s.; Mr. T. Rawlings, Bessborough Arms, Bessborough Place, S.W., 7d.; Mr. A. Heep, Denbigh Arms, 3, Denbigh Place, S.W., 1s. 1d.; Mr. H. Chivers, 98, Wilton Road, S.W., 1d.; The Manager, 6, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W., 1s. 0½d.; Mrs. G. Napper, Beresford Arms, Beresford Street, Camberwell, 11d.; Mr. F. Shields, The Cricketers, Newington Butts, S.E., 1s.

Total, £1 13s. 7½d., of which we have allocated to CXCV., 10s.; CXCVI., 20s.; CXCVII., 3s. 7½d.

A REAL Cricket Competition. See page 838.

A LIVERPOOL ENIGMA.

CAN ANYONE SOLVE IT?

Some few days ago one of our readers answered an advertisement in a London newspaper asking for men who wanted to earn £10 a week. In reply, he received a typewritten document, headed "The Associated Representatives of the United Kingdom," Leylands Buildings, Liverpool, and which read as follows:—

DEAR BROTHER,—Instead of being tied to my desk I feel that I ought to be with you "just now." You have seen the picture of the old hunter turned out of his paddock to rest? As he hears the "Huntsman's Horn" and the "Tally Ho"—as the "Red Coats" fly by, he becomes young again in his remembrance of those happy moments when he strained every nerve to be first "in at the death."

It just seems to me, as an old selling man, that I have been pensioned off—"put in the paddock"—; but Oh! the music! that thrilling, life-giving, sound! those waves of enthusiasm! that come to me from those in "the Selling Field."

How can it be otherwise? "Why"? When have our boys had such an opportunity?

NO CASH TO COLLECT! ONLY CONTRACTS TO GET SIGNED!

As I hear you telling "The Trader" that—for three halfpence—for deliver for him—not a circular—catalogue—not piece of advert. matter to find its way into the wastepaper basket—"Summer"—"Autumn"—"Winter"—and "Spring"—Now! a "LIVE" Medium—a living Advocate! a something that brings forth the best feeling and the warmest thanks, endearing "The Trader" to "The Parent"—"The Family Circle." Why! because of delivering a piece of advert. matter to light the fire with—or fill the wastepaper basket—"The Trader," given for the use The Family—A Solid Oak Writing Desk with a Range of Lessons:—English—Welsh—German—French—Spanish—Latin—Pitman's Shorthand—Drawing—Music (Tonic-Sol-Fa, and Old Notation)—The Metric System, etc. AND: "The Encyclopædia of What to Buy and Where to Buy It."

These 365 Lessons the Family appreciate and are proud of. They are more than indebted to "The Trader." They recognise that he has risen on this "Wave of Progress.": That he realises that in business nothing can be left to chance: that he *MUST* have this "Magnet" attracting—holding—the cash trade for him. Do you know a single "Trader" who—knowing this—would refuse to save his Three Halfpence—that he spends four times a year?—In Twenty Years, you see, he spends Ten Shillings—not Per Customer!—per HOME. WITH WHAT RESULT?

SEE what you *save* "The Trader"! SEE how *ensure* him the Trade of the HOMES!—Not for Twenty Years—Perpetually!!! FOR THREE HALFPENCE EACH HOME!!!—*NOT* TEN SHILLINGS!!!

In some districts there may be "Traders" for whom one eighth of the space 5 x 5½ is sufficient. In batches of Eight we will accept them at 20s. each (*i.e.*, £8 per whole space, or any less division pro rata).

Write me—confide in me. I can't be with each of you, helping to get Contracts signed as I used to. I don't dictate how you shall handle this proposition, but REMEMBER:—I am the "Storehouse" in which is accumulating all the "Selling Points"—not my own "Selling Points" but the "Selling Points" of successful men now in the "field."

There is no argument you can "come up against" that, between us, we can't "turn down" with the cream of experience accumulating for you.

I am here to help you.

Yours fraternally,

THOMAS SIMPSON.

In forwarding this document to us, he asks if we can tell him what it is all about. We give it up. Perhaps Mr. Simpson will explain.

TRUTH AND THE BOY.

There is a boy at Hedon (near Hull) who seems by way of having a future. The lad went into a local tobacconist's shop, and in the absence of the proprietor was served by a daughter, whom he asked for a penn'orth of cigarettes. On her questioning him he said he was 16, he repeated the statement to the police when they caught him with one of the cigarettes in his mouth, and there is no doubt that he looked 16; yet the police, having got his birth certificate, prosecuted the tobacconist. The magistrates let off the defendant on payment of 5s. costs, but the money went to pay the expenses of the lad (as a witness of the police) who had caused all the trouble by his lying. What a farce this kind of legislation is!

LETTERS WE HOPE TO RECEIVE.

To the Editor of JOHN BULL.

SIR,—I have decided to emerge shortly from my place of concealment, and as my re-appearance in public will be an event of almost national importance, I have selected JOHN BULL as the medium for this announcement, because I understand that it enjoys the widest circulation of any weekly journal amongst the intelligent classes.

You may wonder why I have remained so long hidden, leaving my dear mother and goods friends, Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, to bear the brunt of the recent prosecution, unsupported by my exhilarating presence. I will tell you. It is in the nature of a confession, but I will not shirk the task. To tell you the truth, I had a touch of panic. No one can accuse me of disclosing any lack of courage up to that time. Indeed, I had not known what fear is. Many a Cabinet Minister have I bearded in his den,—but when I learned that a prosecution for conspiracy was imminent, I experienced a wave of unreasoning terror—and fled, leaving my poor mother to face the music alone; because the Pethick Lawrences don't really count for much, you know.

But now I can no longer endure the reproaches of my conscience. I feel that I have played the coward's part. Of course, lots of my friends put it about that I had evaded arrest so that I might still carry on the business of the Women's Freedom League. But that was merely a polite and kindly fiction. In the first place, it was an impossible explanation because I could not proceed with the work without sooner or later disclosing my whereabouts. No, I funked the trial, and have been doing nothing ever since. But now I am going to try to make amends and rehabilitate my character for courage by coming forward; and whatever punishment the authorities see fit to inflict upon me, I will try to bear with cheerfulness and fortitude.

Now, as a word to my future plans, when my anticipated period of incarceration shall be finished. In the first place I have decided to abandon militant tactics. I have also resolved to drop the agitation for the Parliamentary franchise, for a time at least. My reason is this. During my retirement I have carefully reviewed the attitude of women towards the question of government, both local and imperial, and have come to the conclusion that we suffragists are working at the wrong end. I have learnt, for example, that there are only 1,327 women guardians in Great Britain out of a possible 24,824. This argues a lack of interest on the part of the general run of women as regards the poor. I find also that there are only 4 women town councillors out of a possible 11,140. This proves that women take very little interest in municipal politics, *although in thousands of cases they pay local rates.* Finally, I find there are only 4 women county councillors out of a possible 4,615, thus showing that my sex take even less interest in the wider concerns of their county than in the more restricted affairs of their town. The conclusion I have come to, therefore, is, that even if the Parliamentary vote were granted us, only a negligible proportion of women would trouble to exercise it. Consequently I have decided to organise a campaign for the educating of women in the subject of local politics; and when throughout the country they evince an active interest in such matters, exercising their votes and getting returned in large numbers as guardians, town and county councillors, I believe the mass of the people, convinced of women's usefulness in public life, will withdraw their opposition to the female franchise, and that our cause will be honourably and automatically won.

Yours truly,

CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

The holiday-maker cannot be better suited regarding his headgear than in one of Messrs. Horne Bros. "Aero" hats—made in soft felt, in various colours, weighting but 1¼ ounces, and shaped to suit all tastes and occasions. It affords adequate protection against the sun, and at the same time delightfully meets the objections so widely entertained to the weight of caps, the hardness of straw hats and the expensiveness and conspicuousness of panamas. Full particulars can be obtained from Messrs. Horne Bros., Mail Order Dept., 388, Strand.

£100 for the Test Match top scores.

"If Gamage were my partner"

HOW THE KNOWLEDGE THAT HAS BROUGHT HIM TO SUCCESS CAN HELP OUR READERS THERE.

A. W. Gamage.

NOT so many years ago the man whose picture appears on this page was the proud proprietor of a half-share in a tiny little shop in Holborn with a frontage of not more than a few feet. Now that business occupies two huge blocks of buildings, and is being added to every day. And its owner has hundreds of other interests as well.

Moreover, this wonderful success is due to his own efforts. He has had no outside "influence" to help him on the road to success. His progress has been due to one thing and one thing only, to his business knowledge, the knowledge that tells one when to buy and how to sell, when to lay down new plant and when to retrench, that shows the way out of difficulties and the best means of seizing opportunities.

What would it mean to you?

What would it not mean to you if you could have such a man with you every day in your work to help you in *your* difficulties, to show you the way to seize *your* opportunities? You must realise that it might mean just the difference between just the mediocre measure of success that attends most hard-working men and the *real* success that comes to the few. Only a few days ago Andrew Carnegie, the great millionaire, told a reporter that "merely doing your duty is not sufficient. You must work with your head, and in addition to obeying orders *work out projects of your own.*"

Now, how are you to lay those projects, if you have no past experience to help you or no substitute for it, such as you would have if only you could have a man like Gamage for your partner?

How can you have it?

Do you know that you *can* have Gamage for your partner, at least as far as the benefit of his advice is concerned? And not only Gamage, but also Sir Joseph Lyons, the famous restaurateur; and Richard Burbidge, managing director of Harrods' Stores; and S. F. Edge, the famous expert on making and selling motor cars, who started as a cycle racer; and James Murray Allison, advertisement manager of *The Times*, and John Lawrie, managing director of William Whiteley, Ltd. Nor are these all, for you can have the advice of many other famous men, such, for example, as Mr. H. Simonis, the advertisement manager of the *Daily News and Leader* and one of the most able members of the advertising profession in Great Britain.

And the way you can get the benefit of these men's knowledge is by getting the "Business Encyclopædia" and by referring to it whenever a business difficulty faces you. Whatever your difficulty, however hard it seems, you will be able to solve it by the advice given in the "Business Encyclopædia." For it is written by men who have solved similar difficulties themselves, including all those mentioned above, and many more besides, whose names will be sent free upon request.

Is it any wonder, then, that over 50,000 successful business men and great business firms are already using the work? Can there be any doubt that you will be better able to succeed if you also have it by your side to give you advice in your difficulties and to lend you confidence in your decisions?

A Book on Business Free.

In this column you will find a special coupon for readers of JOHN BULL, which entitles you to a free copy of an interesting book on business, that may set you on the right road to business success, just as it has set many others of your fellow readers. In itself it is of considerable value to any business man, for it contains actual facsimile specimens, showing how to draw up important legal documents, such as wills, agreements, leases, indentures, etc., etc.

But—and this is its most vital point for you—it tells you also *all* about this great "Business Encyclopædia," the work that JOHN BULL describes as "probably the most valuable work that any business man could have." It is the only work that gives full and detailed information on all the problems that confront the business man during his work.

Whatever line of business you are in, whatever position you occupy in it, this work can prove invaluable to you if you will use it right. If you want to know about any point in book-keeping, the "Business Encyclopædia" will tell you. If you want to know about drawing up a balance-sheet, or a profit and loss account, you will find it here. If you want to know the law as it affects your own particular calling, if you want to know anything about manufacturing, if you want to learn all about loose leaf and card index systems, you can learn it here. You can learn, in fact, of any and every subject connected with business. Surely you realise the help this knowledge would mean.

It is only because 50,000 firms and business men are already using the work that we are able to offer to deliver it to any reader of JOHN BULL for a first payment of 1s. 6d. only, the balance being paid in small monthly payments, while you are already using and benefiting by the work. But signing this coupon does not cost you anything.

A FREE BOOK.

This Coupon entitles you to one free copy of the book on Business Success, but it must be sent at once. It tells all about the work and the specially low terms to readers of JOHN BULL.

To the CAXTON PUBLISHING CO., LTD.,
54, Surrey Street, London, W.C.

Please send me one complimentary copy of the book on the "Business Encyclopædia."

Name .....
(Send this form or a postcard).

Address .....

.....

THE DECEITFULNESS OF RICHES.

By Jim Crow.

[Mr. James Crow is our Licensed Crank. A brilliant exponent of unconventional ideas—invariably distorted and lacking in perspective, cynical and epigrammatic in expression—he is a journalistic cat amongst the pigeons. We accept no responsibility for his opinions—or his life.]

I have proved that love is worse than alcohol as the destroyer of home, honour, health, wealth, and all the gifts of the gods. I am not sure that money is not an even wickeder invention of milord and master, ye Devil. It is certainly more illusive.

If I Rolled in Riches.

"In the time of our wealth . . . good Lord, deliver us," is one of the most pathetic petitions of the Litany. I should be very charming, or, at least, very popular, if my coffers were full of gold. High teas for high people, high veal for Highbury prodigals, fatted calf for everybody but blacklegs would be the order of the day. But I am willing to admit, I am free to confess (as old-fashioned Parliamentarians used to say) that the administration of riches is only for the rare few. A fowl in every pot, say I in chorus with Henry IV.; a plentiful wage, I re-echo with Mr. Benjamin Tillett. But the administration of millions is outside the scope of any but the rare few.

Money and Mountains.

The time of their wealth must be a very anxious one for glorified counter-jumpers, fortunate financiers, the Lord Rosebery and other people on horseback. Like the philoprogenitive crone in the nursery rhyme, they know not what to do. Most people of my acquaintance tell me that they do not desire riches. They seek only to be free from care. Two or three thousand pounds a year would exclude anxieties, satisfy mere carnal desires, enable them to devote liberated energies to polo or peonies or some such skittles. As I told the Official Receiver, I have no more sense of money than of music. I cannot keep accounts, haggle with newspaper-proprietors or subsist on bread and onions. But give me millions and millions, at least a Fortunatus purse which would not be exhausted by my whims, and I undertake to remove much more than mountains.

Weakness of the Wealthy.

Creature comforts are necessary to me, because I want to obey the injunction to take no thought for to-morrow. But I should regard £100,000 as merely a gambling-counter. I want enough to convulse Europe, pull down mighty Emperors from their seats, subsidise Tillett's Territorials, set my country flowing with milk and honey. See how silly most plutocrats are, have been and ever shall be, world without end, Amen. One of them devotes himself to the distribution of futile libraries, which become a burthen on down-trodden ratepayers. The result of his epileptic generosity is that eight-roomed householders deny themselves eggs in order that stiff-necked mechanics may spell out Macaulay and Marie Corelli. And this is just an unconscious machination of stupidity. Most millionaires or hundred-thousandaires are content to buy themselves beerages or baronetcies, seats in a Parliament where they will posture as dumb dogs, country castles which they know not how to enjoy, a dress-circle or rover ticket for Society, which cadges with contumely.

Fairy Gold.

The modern use of money is an argument, the one and only argument, for Socialism. When pursy people are preferred above the wise and the witty; when the friendship of kings, heroes and statesmen is as marketable as butter and honey; when titles and degrees and the freedom of cities and the representation of popular interests are for ever under the hammer (going, going, gone!); when almost every woman has her price and marriages are made in Mincing Lane; when political Parties are mere cat's-paws for your mischievous Mæcenas, and the destinies of Empires for your cosmopolitan Crœsus—are we not justified in cynicism about the deceitfulness of riches?

Limitations of Lucre.

Riches accomplish too much and too little. Too much, because of the simplicity and disorganisation of the poor; too little, by reason of the singular stupidity of the rich. He who never makes mistakes never makes anything else, is one of the few plausible proverbs. The converse is that he who makes much money usually makes a fool of himself. *Qui trop embrasse mal étreint.* It is easier for a rope to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. How true that is when we remember that the Kingdom of Heaven is within us. In other words, riches rarely bring joy. But surely that is the fault of the rich. You cannot have all the gifts of the gods. If you have the capacity for joy and love, you are not the man to hoard petty cash, rejoice in omnibuses and onions, wear washed gloves, patronise the pit or live outside the radius of riotous living. You cannot serve Cupid and Mammon. A full heart means an empty pocket.

Riches First, the Rest Nowhere.

I admit all these terrible truths, but I do think we should all try to make a stand against one aspect of the deceitfulness of riches; I mean against the unnecessary drawbacks of impecuniosity. You may have the tongue of women and of angels (a divine *lingua franca*); your luscious lips may call forth Corinthian clouds of caresses; you may be taken to muse in music-halls, hug in parks, coquet in carriages; the Beloved may be as disinterested as she is divine. But your strength and grace and glory will be but tickling symbols if you have not riches. The long-suffering and kind are sought out by their own, are easily puffed up by adulation. Fidelity, happiness and riches; these three, but the greatest of these is undoubtedly riches.

The Humiliating Handicap.

Of course, I do not suggest for a fraction of the shake of a duck's tail that the Beloved, or indeed any woman, consciously panders to your pocket. But even the greatest altruist may feel neglected, at least vaguely hurt, if you have to give her cheap claret or field flowers or jaunts in public conveyances. She will deny this vehemently to herself in the silent watches of the night, but human nature will detract from the joyful anticipation of meetings which penury deprives of pomp. Take even married life, which is usually the apotheosis of human felicity. How can the kindest temper hold out against insufficient allowances, insolent tradesmen, the denial of dissipation, duns, writs, all the sordid shortcomings of an empty purse? And even when your wife or any other love is endowed with archangelic indulgence, your own self-respect stands forth as an inexorable accuser. Talk of the prick of conscience! That is nothing compared with the prickly heat of compulsory meanness. We may be quite willing to sacrifice all our goods to gratify the gracious, but when we find a voluntary distraint inadequate to our sense of generosity, we become hermit-crabs.

The Shame of Shabbiness.

So much for altruism. Most of us happen to be selfish, and the pinch of poverty begins at home. Have you ever known and understood the shame of shabbiness? We despise tailors and call them snips, just as though they came from the Palatinate, but when credit is evanescent they loom like luminous stars. There's a bit of prose-poetry for you. Hunger, of course, is only for those who have not the pluck to steal. Physical, ventriloquial hunger, I mean. There is, however, the hunger of unsatisfied desires. Pity the poor fellow who saunters through cities without sufficient gold to entertain random maidens, to bail himself out of police-courts, to buy nectar for an useful friend. Once upon a time I read the Prince Consort's letters. This sounds like eaves-dropping, much too sparrow-like, but I assure you that they were in book form. Well, he advised his son to make a point of keeping a sum of money against the unforeseen. Having then nothing even for needs which I foresee every day, I wrote to a kindly philosopher, quoted the Prince Consort, and received ten shillings by return of post. This sounds cynical, but is really very serious. There is nothing so hideous as the unforeseen call upon an empty purse.

Wait and See.

Everybody ought always to have plenty of money. I promise you that, so soon as I am Chancellor of the Exchequer, I will give this imperative reform my most earnest consideration. I will inaugurate a golden age for all such as have expensive tastes.

Are you interested in Cricket? If so, see page 838.

DRAPERY BY INSTALMENTS!

GREAT ADVERTISING OFFER FOR FOURTEEN DAYS ONLY.

2/- DEPOSIT and 2/- monthly secures the Greatest Bargain in the World. A whole Bale Full of Necessary Household Articles for £1

Or LADY'S COMPLETE OUTFIT OF BEAUTIFUL UNDERLINEN, Etc.

THE BRITISH CLOTHING CLUB, 74, OLDHAM STREET, MANCHESTER,

are desirous of making their Name and Goods popular in every home in the country, and in order to advertise their new premises, as above, are offering A FIFTY-SHILLING BALE OF DRAPERY GOODS FOR A SOVEREIGN, which can be paid for at TWO SHILLINGS PER MONTH.

NUMBER 1 BALE.

The Wonderful Bale of Drapery consists of the following articles:—

		Usual price
1	Pair Superior White Yorkshire Blankets, large size, beautifully soft, warm, and comfortable.	10/11
1	Pair Soft Twill Sheets, large size, splendid make and quality.	5/11
1	Magnificent White Honeycomb Quilt, full size, splendid design, with fancy knotted fringe edge.	5/6
1	Pair Beautiful White Nottingham Lace Curtains, Viennese floral design, 3 yds. long.	4/11
1	Pair Lovely Cream Curtains, Parisian art design, 3 yds. long (both pairs alike if desired).	4/11
1	Splendid Dining Room Tablecloth, white Damask.	4/-
1	Splendid Alhambra Shawl, useful and warm.	3/6
1	Beautiful Sideboard Cover, elaborate Needlework Design	1/11
6	Lovely Damask Table Centres.	1/11
2	Large Turkish Towels.	2/-
6	Splendid White Hemstitched Handkerchiefs (Gent.'s)	2/6
6	Do. do. do. do. (Ladies')	2/-
	TOTAL	£2/10/0

Our Price for the Bale, containing all 32 Articles as above, £1 only.

Never before has such a magnificent collection of Ladies' White Underclothing been offered in one parcel at the trifling sum of £1. No woman in the land ought to be without our lovely Bargain Bale Number A1. 40s. honest value for 20s., and only 2s. down and 2s. per month afterwards, but a useful present sent in addition for cash with order.

BARGAIN BALE NUMBER A1.

		Usual price
1	Dainty White Chemise.	4/6
1	Pair Pretty White Knickers.	3/11
1	Fancy White Camisole.	2/11
1	Splendid White Nightdress.	4/11
1	Fancy White Nightdress Case.	1/9
1	Pair Latest Corsets.	3/11
1	Splendid Underskirt.	3/11
1	Magnificent White Skirt.	4/11
1	Splendid Morning Blouse.	2/6
1	Elegant Afternoon Blouse.	2/11
2	Pairs Black (or Coloured) Stockings.	3/10
	TOTAL	£2/0/0

The above garments are made of specially selected white materials, with beautiful lace trimmings and threaded silk ribbon in very latest fashion. Usually sold in stores and shops at double the price.

In Order to Give Customers a Wider Range of Choice, We have decided to add Our TWO GUINEA BALES, number 2 & 3, at the same prices and terms.

NUMBER 2 BALE.

		Usual price
1	Beautiful Large Tapestry Table Cover, Oriental Design,	4/9
1	Large White Damask Table Cover, Floral Design,	3/9
1	Unbleached Table Cover, hard wearing cloth,	3/-
2	White Cambridge Pillow Slips, frilled all round,	2/-
1	White Bolster Case,	1/3
1	Dress Length of Lovely Mercerine, makes a suitable Dress,	5/-
1	Elaborate Swiss Embroidered White Blouse Length (with trimmings),	3/9
1	Pair of White or Cream Lace Curtains, quite new design,	4/6
1	Full-size Lady's Fancy Overall, newest fashion,	2/-
1	Lady's Flannelette Nightdress, good wearing quality,	2/6
1	Man's Oxford Shirt,	2/6
2	White Honeycomb Towels,	2/-
2	Large Turkish Towels,	2/-
3	Lace Furniture Spreads,	3/-
		£2/2/0

20 First-class Useful Articles for £1, averaging only 1s. each. Study this great bargain. Sent anywhere. Distance no object.

NUMBER 3 BALE.

OUR TWO-GUINEA BALE OF BEDDING NEEDS NO DESCRIPTION, THE VALUE BEING APPARENT IN THE ARTICLES AS FOLLOWS:

2	Pairs of White Yorkshire Blankets, beautifully soft, warm, and comfortable, at 10/6 per pair	1	1	0
2	Pairs of Soft Twill Bed Sheets, English make, at 5/6 per pair		11	0
2	Splendid Alhambra Quilts, white or coloured, at 5/- each.		10	0
	Total	£2	2	0

Our present price for the whole Bale £1 Only. A Real Chance of a Lifetime.

SEND YOUR ORDER WITH DEPOSIT AT ONCE, TO SECURE THESE WONDERFUL BARGAINS.

HOW TO SECURE YOUR BARGAIN BALE.

All you have to do is to write your name and full address very clearly on one side of a sheet of notepaper. State which Bale you require and the amount of deposit enclosed. Also state the name of this paper in order to entitle you to our specially reduced prices. Always keep the counterfoil of postal order. Note our address. The British Clothing Club, 74, Oldham Street, Manchester. A large shop and premises in the principal Street of Manchester. No connection with any other firm.

Our great offer for these goods is for 14 days only from the date of this publication; and as our main object is to establish our business by supplying the above quantity of goods for the low sum of £1, customers are sure of getting for once in a way a huge and genuine bargain. Furthermore, in order to enable everyone to avail themselves of the opportunity of purchasing such a marvellous bargain bale, THE BRITISH CLOTHING CLUB have decided to send these goods packed free to any address on receipt of 2s. deposit and the balance (18s. only) at 2s. PER MONTH; relying on the public to appreciate the value and recommend us to their friends and relatives.

We must impress upon you the fact that every one of the articles enumerated above are fresh, clean, and NEWEST GOODS (no old stock), and are of guaranteed quality, so that customers can depend on every article giving satisfaction.

We shall willingly exchange any article or return money in full if the goods are not sent in the bale as advertised. Remember, our object is to make our name and goods known throughout the country by giving great value for money, and making each purchaser a regular customer.

Customers who prefer to send Cash with Order will receive a Handsome Present as Bonus.

Send Your Order Now. Do Not Delay and Miss the Greatest Bargain Ever Advertised.

Ladies know that a Sovereign does not go very far in Drapery when shopping.

SEND A POUND TO US AND YOU WILL BE SURPRISED AND DELIGHTED WITH OUR BALE OF GOODS.

Each article is a necessity in every home, and you will require them at some time or other, but the opportunity may not occur again to buy so cheaply and so conveniently.

LARGE INTERESTING LISTS OF OTHER BARGAINS IN DRAPERY AND JEWELLERY ON OUR MONTHLY TERMS WILL BE SENT ON RECEIPT OF A POSTCARD.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To Dr. Ernest Bashford, Cancer Research Institute, London.

DEAR DR. BASHFORD,—Obviously you are a typical champion of the sort of cause in which the British Medical Association rejoices its soul; therefore it was natural that your virulent and malicious attack on Dr. Robert Bell should appear in the organ of that not very scrupulous trade union. The characteristic attitude of the Association to innovation, even successful innovation, in the medical profession is represented, sir, by the footnote of the editor of the *Medical Journal* to your article. It was not sufficient that the paper should publish your rancorous charges of quackery against Dr. Bell; it must needs formally identify itself with them.

I should have imagined that you, of all men, by virtue of your position as director of research at the Cancer Institute, would be least likely to denounce as a quack a practitioner of the qualifications and general reputation of Dr. Bell because he had a theory of his own. For what is the origin of the Cancer Research Fund, sir? The consciousness of the man who provided the money that cutting and carving has failed—that the more the surgeons cut, the more this awful scourge increases. And what is your *raison d'etre* at the Institute? To test every theory and every treatment that promises to shed light on cancer origin or suggest a cure apart from the knife. And in the years you have directed the Institute, what have you done? Nothing, sir—nothing. Is it to be the knife or nothing for ever? Is every independent enquirer to be proscribed by you and the Medical Association? Is no contribution to cancer research to be regarded as legitimate or valuable except your own?

If you knew the history of your own profession, sir, you would know that it has stamped and denounced as a quack nearly every one of its illustrious sons who has conferred lasting benefit on the human race. How can you tell that increase of knowledge and experiment will not yet bring you to the theory of Dr. Bell? Stranger things have happened than that in the history of the medical profession, Dr. Bashford, infallible as you apparently think you are. I suppose if you and this medical trade union organ had succeeded in the action, the Association would then have moved the Council to strike Dr. Bell off the Register as a "notorious quack." What a glorious victory for Dr. Bashford that would have been! What a credit to medical science! You are but a young man yet, sir, and you have much to learn. I beg of you, for your own sake and for the sake of your studies, to be less confident in your judgments and more sparing of your denunciations. Meanwhile, spare the public your opinions on the quackery of others. JOHN BULL.

To Baron Marschall von Bieberstein,

MEIN HERR,—Allow me to offer a half-hearted welcome on your arrival as, I hope, the bearer of an olive branch—the inaugurator of a policy of friendship and confidence. But I hope you will be more successful in London than you were in Constantinople. You will remember how the Sultan tried to be rid of you at the outset, and how the German Foreign Office saved the situation only by mendacious assurances that you were the best friend the Turks had ever had. After throwing over the Sultan when he came to grief, you contrived to ingratiate yourself with the "Young Turks," by various means. Now it seems that you propose to throw over the Committee of Union and Progress in order to extort British concessions in respect of the Bagdad Railway. I have no exaggerated confidence in Sir Edward Grey, but I scarcely expect that you will succeed with him if you attempt to continue the methods which you employed at Constantinople. It was possible for you to make up for your diplomatic deficiencies there by generous distributions of Turkish pounds. Here, however, you will find that our journalists as well as our politicians are not at all easy to buy. It remains to be seen whether you are clever enough to succeed with vague promises, flattery and prevarications. JOHN BULL.

To the Committee, International Horse Show, Olympia.

GENTLEMEN,—May I suggest that you should insist upon the removal of the bandages from the forelegs of the horses competing in the jumping competitions? You may then learn something—if, indeed, you do not already know it—regarding the way in which some of the animals belonging to foreign competitors are "trained"—how at a certain school, behind closed doors, the unfortunate creatures are jumped across an imitation brick wall at the side of which stand two men holding a long strip of leather, through which the business ends of a lot of nails protrude. When the forelegs appear likely to touch the wall, this infernal contrivance is raised so as to bring the spikes against the horses' shins, whilst if, in alighting on the other side, the hind legs appear likely to touch the wall, similar brutal treatment is resorted to. If you order the bandages to be removed, many an otherwise splendid animal will be found to have a mass of sores about the legs. Apart from the abominable cruelty, the persons practising it are, of course, taking an undue advantage of the humanity of their rivals. I look to you to mete out drastic punishment to the guilty parties. JOHN BULL.

To Dr. W. R. Inge, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London.

DEAR DISMAL DEAN,—Where have you been of late? I have not seen your name mentioned in the papers for a quite a long time. Not so many months ago you were making us all crack our sides with laughing at your dismal dumps. Not a day passed that one did not pick up the paper to find you having a row with the world and all that therein is. Even Rochester found it all right for some things, you will remember—a very good world to live in, to lend, or to spend, or to give in; though to beg or to borrow or get a man's own, the very worst world that ever was known. But with you it was irredeemably bad, round and round and through and through, so every other day you took a running kick at it for the ease of your mind. Never was such a Dean with such a liver.

Now that you are about to receive a legacy of £7,000 under the will of your uncle, Dr. Cutton, I do hope you feel better, though it does seem hard and awry that a doctor has to go to heaven to make a dean a little less miserable on earth. It may be, my dear Inge, you will tell me that the love of money is the root of all evil, as, indeed, I have heard from other theological sources; but when I recall that so many of us have so little of the root I decline to credit that there is as much evil in the world as some people think. JOHN BULL.

To Cyril Asquith, Esq., Balliol College, Oxford.

DEAR BOY,—I notice you have been fined 15s. and costs for driving a motor-car without a rear light and failing to produce your licence. This is very naughty, though I seem to remember that your conspicuous father was once worse, his driving being like unto the driving of Jehu, the son of Nimshi, for he drove so furiously that he landed himself in a similar place of correction. Trim your lamp, young man, trim your lamp, so that the policeman may see. JOHN BULL.

To the Chairman, Croydon Education Committee, Croydon.

SIR,—It has come to my ears that a certain Roman Catholic day-school under the jurisdiction of your committee has among its scholars some Nonconformist children, and that some of these, for the heinous offence of eating sweets during Lent, have been called upon to do penance. Will you enquire into the matter, and, if the investigation bears out the report, put a stop to such absurd and unpardonable procedure? JOHN BULL.

Lord Mersey, Wreck Enquiry, London.

Have duly noted Attorney-General's statement official enquiry has been made as to what other ships in vicinity time disaster, but that "several lines not answered." Nobody seems to be telling what they would rather not, I notice. BULL.

Captain, Surrey Team, Oval.

Hard-won victory against Australians. If you can beat 'em on your own, how will they fare against All England? BULL.

£100 for two correct scores. See page 838.

"LAW AND ORDER."

There once was a "Party" so bright
That with both hands at once he could write;
But one hand would commend
What the other condemned,
Yet he vowed they were both of them right.

When Labour revolts the Government must use force to preserve the law
When Ulster revolts the Government must not use force to preserve the law
TORY
PARTY
Frank Holland

A LAW-FUL LIMERICK.

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

THE STOCK MARKETS.

By "Verax."

Consols at Last Considered by the Chancellor—Coppers Strong—Whim Wells Favoured—Exceptional Position of Van Den Berghs.

As has always been the case of late at the end of the half-year, Berlin has thrown stocks overboard in order to get over its financial difficulties in comparative comfort. There is, however, one bright spot in the market, and that is the Chancellor of the Exchequer's financial repentance in the matter of the Sinking Fund, as best part of the surplus from last year is now at last to be devoted to its legitimate purpose. Hence a moderate recovery in *Consols*, which had indeed been very badly in want of a tonic. The market is now engaged in discounting the expected reduction in dividends of *Home Rails* for the current half-year. The *Yankee Market* is looking to the crop reports for its future guidance, which are favourable at present. The same applies to *Canadian Railway* stocks. Turning to the mining market, *Coppers* at present claim the chief attention, owing to the remarkably favourable statistical position. *Rio Tintos* have been strongly supported at times, but have finally also been sold from Paris. The *American Copper* shares, such as *Amalgamated* and *Anaconda*, are too dangerous for the ordinary investor. But Australia is providing the very opportunity for which the shrewd speculative investor in this class of mining enterprise is very much on the alert. The buying that is in progress of *Whim Wells*, now quoted 1⅜, clearly indicates wisdom in selection. The company is a dividend payer already, but this West Australian property is so favourably situated and ably managed that it is difficult to put a period to its possibilities. It is in possession of its own railway to the port of Balla Balla, and on its large property over a million tons of highly payable ore have been disclosed above the water level. With copper at anything like its current market value the profits in sight will admit of exceptionally satisfactory dividends. According to the last cabled information the shipment of 3,407 tons of copper ore on the vessel *Cortez* has realised £20,223, after allowing for smelting charges. Then, again, the "Olav" has arrived at Liverpool with 2,656 tons of 10½ per cent. copper ore, which has been sold at as much as £82 15s. per ton. On these facts holders of Whim Wells have, therefore, every reason to be satisfied with their prospects. *Nigerian Tin* shares are still friendless, and although the *Benue* report was not at all unfavourable, it would not please the palate of *Nigerian* speculators, who had been fed up with such remarkable plums in the shape of optimistic reports in the past. The *American-Marconi* settlement has passed off better than had been anticipated, because it had been so long prepared for. *Rio Trams* have at last reached the goal of 150, which I predicted some time ago, when they were quoted below 100.

A good demand has been experienced again for *Van den Berghs*, which now look cheap at 2⅞ xd. It will be remembered that at the last general meeting, on May 9, the chairman stated specially that in the current year much better business was being transacted. The very conditions which lessened the production of milk and caused a great deal of extra expense to the company in the past year, created later on in the present year a curtailment in the production of butter. The consequence was that the price of butter rose to such heights that the demand for margarine increased by leaps and bounds, and the increase in the turnover which then took place has since been well maintained. This means, therefore, that 1912 will be a bumper year for *Van den Berghs*, and an excellent interim dividend is, consequently, expected, which may almost double last year's figures. It is hardly necessary to point out that the company has paid 17½ per cent. dividend for several years, while a balance has been carried forward to the present year's account of £200,000. There is besides a reserve fund amounting to £288,248. Here, then, there is a share which at the present price yields nearly 7½ per cent. on the investment, while there is every prospect of an important appreciation in capital value. It is, in fact, a highly satisfactory industrial investment, which at the present time is favoured by remarkable circumstances so as to promise greatly increased dividends, while the large amount of the reserve fund and cash in hand guarantee complete safety.

Kaffirs from the Investment Point of View—Some Promising Purchases.

The Kaffir dividend season is now in full swing, and, despite the labour difficulties experienced during the half-year, the showing is a good one in most cases. Through neglect prices of even the best class of shares have sunk to an unduly low level, and, of course, the speculator's discomfiture is the investor's opportunity. I will give a few examples illustrative of the advantageous purchases which are now available here. The *New Modderfontein* has an estimated life of 22 years, and the distribution for the past twelve months is made up to 25 per cent., while the £4 shares are quoted at 11½, so that the yield is 9 per cent. per annum. The market is very favourably disposed to *Meyer and Charlton* £1 shares, standing at 4⅜, and on which the dividend for the year amounts to 45 per cent., the life of the mine being estimated at 19 years, the return being about 9⅞ per cent. per annum. The life of the *Crown Mines* is estimated at no fewer than 42 years, and the present annual dividend amounts to 110 per cent., the 10s. shares standing at about 7, and yield 8 per cent. per annum. Amongst the *Deep Level* group, *Rose Deep* £1 shares at 3 1/16, the dividend for the half-year having been raised to 22½ per cent., making a total distribution of 42½ per cent. for the year, and giving a yield of over 12 per cent. per annum, while the life is estimated at 12 years. The *Van Ryn* has a good reputation as a consistent dividend-payer, the distribution for the past year being 45 per cent., and, the £1 shares being still obtainable at 3 1/16, the yield is over 12 per cent. per annum, while the mine is estimated to have another 20 years' life. Then there is the *Rand Mines*, whose dividend for the past year amounts to 220 per cent., and whose holdings are in the pick of the Transvaal mines, so that the 5s. shares are a sound purchase at about 6⅝, giving a yield of 8½ per cent. per annum. The fact should be borne in mind that present quotations contain half-a-year's dividend, and when the latter are deducted prices will look still cheaper.

Oil Shares Dull with Other Markets—The Shell Transport Meeting—Oil in Algeria—"Bear" Sales of Maikops.

Just now none of the markets show real strength, and even the optimistic statements made by Sir Marcus Samuel at the *Shell Transport* meeting last week did not help the market. It is, however, worth noting that he foreshadowed increased profits for the current year. It is also stated that this company is in negotiation for the acquisition of the assets of an important *British Oil Company* trading in the Far East. The Oil share market generally has now assumed a waiting attitude, pending the maturing of numerous options at the end of the present month. *Ural Caspians* and *Egyptians* are lower, and, apart from *British Maikops*, which have firmed up, Maikop issues generally are being raided by bears, notwithstanding the very favourable dividend outlook of the *Maikop Victory* and *Black Sea Oilfields*, and the certainty that the new wells are now about to increase the output of both. News of some interest is the favourable indication for oils in Algeria on the property of the *Algerian Oilfields*.

Synthetic Rubber the Topic of the Moment—Rubber Shares Rallying from the Scare.

Like a bolt from the blue came Professor Perkin's announcement of the discovery of synthetic rubber, giving the rubber share market many a bad quarter of an hour. More sober reflection, however, has shown that, even under the best conditions, artificial rubber cannot be produced on a commercial scale for a year or two, and the question of cost is also all-important. There are, moreover, many other professors, of at least equal standing to that of Professor Perkin, who do not think that synthetic rubber can hope to really rival the natural product. The rubber-share market has had a severe shaking, and the best thing for holders to do under the present circumstances is to sit tight and not play into the hands of the bears. Many shares, especially of the younger producing companies, are now at a tempting level, although it must be admitted that it requires a certain amount of courage to buy the same under present conditions. By the way, what is this I hear regarding the *Linggi Plantations?* A quarter which professes to know asserts that the report upon the property prepared by Mr. Joseph Fraser for the confidential information of the board is of a character which would justify much lower prices than even the present reduced level for the shares. Such a statement is likely to cause a great deal of uneasiness amongst the shareholders, and the directors of the company would be well advised to make an explicit statement with a view to disposing of these rumours.

£100 for two correct scores. See page 838.

NOTES.

Diamond Proprietary.

Further important news continue to arrive from the scene of operations of this company, the latest being to the effect that there have been finds of 60, 40 and many 10 carat stones, besides numerous small diamonds; it is further stated that a large hydraulic scheme is in progress under influential support. We do not anticipate any very important developments for another month, pending the return from South Africa of the representative of an important Stock Exchange group largely interested in the shares. After then, however, we anticipate a very active market with some sensational developments.

The Northern Territory.

The latest advices from Australia indicate that the Federal Government is adopting a very enterprising and vigorous policy in connection with the Northern Territory, and we have no reason to modify the views we have frequently expressed as to the enormous future for that country.

The Coming Oil Boom.

Everything points to oil being the market of the immediate future, and a large number of new flotations are already on the tapis. Investors will require to exercise the utmost prudence and discrimination in making their selections, and we hope to be of some assistance to them in this matter. At the moment the immediate tip is for Cheleken Oil Fields, now quoted round about 1 1/8ths, and they are being "talked" to 5. There is no necessity, however, for those who buy now to wait for that figure.

"Utility Company" Bonds.

For some time past the feature of new issues has been the offer for sale here of bonds and preferred stocks in tramway, lighting, power, coal and other so-called public utility companies in the United States, Canada, Mexico and South America. The bonds are offered upon what some time ago would have been regarded as very tempting terms, and sometimes Common shares, as they are called, are given as a bonus to subscribers. The information contained in the prospectus is invariably based upon a statement by the President of the company, but as a rule little is known over here about that gentleman or his colleagues on the board; the standing of the issuing house is the only guide to investors. But this, we need scarcely point out, is not an infallible guarantee, and, on the whole, especially in the case of Canadian issues, our adyice is to leave these bonds alone.

More Prudential Fortunes.

We have frequently commented on the remarkable fact that every director of the Prudential Company who dies leave something like half a million of money behind him. Now we have an ordinary manager—of the ordinary branch—leaving the extraordinary fortune of nearly £200,000. How these officials are able to save these vast sums out of their salaries passes our comprehension.

Industrial Assurance Conspiracy.

There is apparently a conspiracy amongst the principal industrial assurance companies to hang together, lest they should hang separately! We have offered, free of any reward, to make a special investigation into the methods of the Pearl, the Refuge, the Britannic and other offices, with a view of ascertaining how far they, like the Prudential, connive at illegal and fraudulent policies, and take advantage of the ignorance and credulity of the thrifty poor, and thus placing ourselves in a position to deal properly with the large number of complaints we receive concerning them. Apparently, however, they are "not having any." They prefer settling such actions as are brought against them, and keeping the balance of their ill-gotten gains, until some *real* Labour Member, who is something more than a lay preacher and a "temperance" advocate, musters up courage to introduce a Bill to place all industrial assurance companies under strict Government supervision, and to compel them to hand over to the Public Trustee, for the benefit of the contributories, all sums, less expenses, received in respect of lapses.

The Pearl Assurance Company.

In another column we give replies to a few representative letters taken from the basketful before us; we hope to deal with all of them in time. We are satisfied that this office is in every way as big a sinner as the Prudential. Indeed, in some respects, it is worse. Take, for instance, the way it treats its agents. Here is a typical letter from one of them:—

After your attack on the fraudulent means employed by the Prudential, I wish you would turn your artillery for a short time on the unscrupulous methods employed by the Pearl Company, both towards their policy-holders and agents, being an agent with the above company. Here is one of their latest tricks. A circular was sent round the agents asking us to explain to those policy-holders who had been in over five years that they could have their books cleared and the amount taken off their policy. Of course, the above seeming concession was intended to apply to miners who had fallen in arrears during the strike. Well, alas, what happens? Up go the policies along with the book to the chief office; back they come with two or three pounds off the policy for a few shillings arrears! We were asked to explain what is called an "equitable reduction," meaning that where the life is old, not so much is taken off; whereas, if the life is young, we are told to explain that the expectation of life is great, so off comes four or five pounds! That is justice in England!

A more fiendish travesty of justice it would be hard to conceive. How do they expect any agent to get business for them with these foul methods hurled in their teeth.

One thing about the Prudential, be it said to their credit, is, that they always give a man a decent book, whereby he is able to make a decent wage. But what shall we say of some of the Pearl men, who are lured into the profession with promises of from twenty-five to thirty-five shillings per week, and find to their dismay they are just able to make their bare salary of twelve shillings.

I hope you will see your way to publish this and help to bring before the eyes of the public the gross injustice that is being perpetrated in the name of a "concession."

I know also that I voice the grievances of the majority of Pearl agents when I say they are harassed, tyrannised over, and worse treated than the agents of any other company in existence; they are indeed sacrificed for the dividend of a few shareholders.

We hope, in the end, to be instrumental in securing these hard-worked and under-paid men better terms, as we have been in the case of the Prudential.

If You See it . . . . . !"

In commenting on the recent bond issue of the City of Moscow, we said that it should be left to the financial houses who dabble in this sort of thing"—and the underwriters were "stuck" with over fifty per cent.! As to the Danish Loan, we said "more tempting securities may be obtained at home"—and the underwriters had to take up half of it! In regard to the Algoma Steel Corporation, we expressed the strongest scepticism as to both the value of the "guarantees" and the statement of the financial position of the guarantors—and the underwriters got nearly the whole of the issue. The New Zealand Loan, which we also criticised, was a fizzle, too. We have certainly begun well under our new City policy.

NEW ISSUES.

There is a temporary lull in new issues, only two having made their appearance last week, one of them, of course, being Canadian. The Dominion is determined to dry us up, if possible.

Letters Patent Insurance Company.

This is a much-needed concern, issued under strong auspices. The directors are men who know their business, and they are to be assisted by a strong advisory council, comprising, amongst others, Sir William Ramsay, Sir Boverton Redwood, Sir Norman Lockyer and Sir James Crichton Browne, with an army of examiners and consulting engineers. The company should have a successful career.

City of Edmonton.

Another Canadian onslaught on our capital, without a redeeming feature. Leave it to the underwriters.

Strand Hotel.

The Strand Hotel, Limited, is offering 7 per cent. cumulative preference and 7 per cent. participating preferred ordinary shares for subscription for the purpose of erecting near Piccadilly a colossal hotel, which it is said will be by far the largest in the United Kingdom. Under the direction of Sir Joseph Lyons, Messrs. Gluckstein, and Mr. Alfred Salmon, it is hardly necessary to say that the policy will be one of enterprise and vigour, and we have no doubt that when completed the hotel will be one more lasting monument to the foresight and sagacity of this wonderful combination of public caterers.

Consolidated Cities Light, Power and Traction.

Another American gold bond issue, based upon the now regulation letter from the President of the Company—without any control on this side or any protection for British investors. The issue had better be left to the underwriters.

Our Test Match prizes are worth winning. See page 838.

JOHN BULL'S FINANCIAL LETTER-BOX

Letters containing enquiries must be addressed to the City Editor, JOHN BULL, 52, New Broad Street, E.C. The names and addresses of correspondents must be enclosed, not, of course, for publication, but in token of good faith. Anonymous communications will be disregarded.

A Postal Order for 1/- must accompany each Enquiry.

OTTOMAN BOND.—"GELB" (Denbigh):—Are you sure you paid £10. According to our information you paid £8 8s. by sixteen instalments. In any case we are sure that Cunliffe, Russell and Co., will treat you fairly.

A. E. E. (Belsize Park).—We think the Metropolitan and Counties Investors, Ltd., Finsbury Court, E.C., the best for your purpose.

INDUSTRIAL SECURITIES, LTD.—DUBIOUS.—Your complaint seems well founded, assuming the facts to be as stated.

LONDON AND SOUTH WESTERN BANK.—F. R. (London).—Perfectly sound, so far as any bank can be, until they have to disgorge their dormant bank balances and unclaimed securities.

CITY OF EDMONDTON AND CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER.—F. P. (Redbourn).—You can find much better investments. See our paragraph in another column on "Utility Company Bonds."

£300 INVESTMENT.—ESQUIMAUX.—We understand your position, and think that you will be well advised to stick to gilt-edged securities in the future. We do not, however, care to advise purchase of home descriptions under present conditions. Rather devote your attention to Colonial bonds, which are of a similar status, but are not directly affected by the circumstances which have played havoc with Consols, Irish Lands, etc. The following should answer your purpose:—Western Australian 3½ per Cent. at 94¼; Cape 3½ per Cent. at 94¼; Grand Trunk Guaranteed 4 per Cent. Stock at 92.

CONSOLS.—W. G. S. (Londonderry).—You cannot, of course, expect Consols to recover to the price you purchased them at, but there is a probability of some recovery.

RICHARDSONS WESTGATE PREFS.—J. F. A. (Knowle).—We would not advise you to sell at the present price.

MAZAWATTEE TEA.—R. P. (Finsbury Park).—We do not advise a purchase. They are paying no dividend on their ordinary shares.

DOVER RINK. T. O. (Sheerness).—Your best course is to give notice of dissent from the scheme, and insist on being bought out at valuation. Go to a respectable solicitor.

CONGO, PANAMA AND OTTOMAN BONDS.—P. A. B. (Dartford).—If you write to Messrs. N. Keizer and Co., 31, Threadneedle Street, E.C., quoting the number and series of your three Bonds, they will give you the information you require.

£500 INVESTMENT.—DOUBTFUL.—Have nothing to do with the firms in question. The following list of investments is a suitable one for the investment of your £500:—India 3½ per. Cent., at 91¼, yield £3 16s. 6d. per cent.; Central London Railway 4½ per Cent. Preference, at 110, yield £4 2s. per cent.; Grand Trunk 5 per Cent. First Preference, at 112, yield £4 9s. 6d. per cent.; Vickers Maxim 5 per Cent. Third Debentures, at 105, yield £4 15s. 3d. per cent.; Lyons 6 per Cent. Preferred Ordinary £1 shares, at 24s., yield £5 per cent.

LA LUZ.—W. C. (Nuneaton).—The Company is no longer in existence, and we are afraid you must look upon your holding as a dead loss. The circumstance should be a lesson to you not to invest in such doubtful Yankee concerns.

OILS.—UNLUCKY.—Shell Transport will improve again. We do not advise you with your small means to speculate in any of the other shares.

ORIENTA LEONESO.—L. L. J.—These shares look as if they were going better.

SANDOW'S COCOA.—D. L. (Ludlow).—This Company is not being wound up, but the shares stand at a discount, and are at present unsaleable, but have patience. You are liable for the call.

DAVID YOUNG.—D. Y. AND W. Y. (Newport, Mon.).—You must pay the calls, and wait for better times.

MAIKOP PIPE LINE.—CARLSBAD.—This Company has greatly improved its position, and it is expected will shortly pay a dividend. You had, therefore, better hold.

AMALGAMATED LAND OF WINNIPEG.—REMLAP.—If the Company were to go into liquidation, which seems unlikely, there would be no special settlement, and until this is granted you will have to pay the calls. It is quite impossible to obtain reliable information of a Winnipeg concern of this sort, and to say when the special settlement will take place.

MARTINS.—UNDECIDED.—We do not recommend these shares as an investment. They are not dealt in on the Stock Exchange, and in the event of your wishing to sell, it would have to be a matter of negotiation.

INSURANCE.

PROPERTY INSURANCE COMPANY.—F. O'B. (Chelsea).—We have investigated the circumstances of your claim, and think the trouble has arisen through your having very much exaggerated your accident in the first instance. If you had made a reasonable claim, no doubt it would have been paid immediately, although there does not appear to be any strict legal liability on the Company.

INDUSTRIAL POLICIES.—TURPIN.—Let us know the name of the office in which you are insured.

SUN LIFE OF CANADA.—G. B.—Quite sound and well able to meet any liability into which they may enter. A. BROWN.—The annuity rates are very favourable, and we should have no hesitation in accepting their policy.

CITY AND COUNTY INSURANCE CO.—G. P. (Birkenhead).—You inform us that the Company are closing up their business in the Birkenhead district on the ground that the risks have proved unsatisfactory, and that in the circumstances the Company have decided to cancel your policy, and refer you to Clause 7 of the Conditions as a justification. You have no alternative but to accept their decision. Policy and receipt book returned under cover.

ROYAL OAK BENEFIT SOCIETY.—NO MORE.—You say you have paid in subscriptions and levies about £20, and that no benefit whatever has been received by you under the policy, and being now unable to continue the payment of subscriptions, you applied for a surrender value, and were informed that as you had not been a member for 10 years, you were not entitled to anything. Assuming the facts to be as stated, we think it is a very hard case, and that you have just cause for complaint. Send us their prospectus and balance-sheet, and we will look further into the matter.

WESLEYAN AND GENERAL.—E. H. C. (Cardiff).—The policy is issued for whole life without profits, and is legal; Condition 12 provides that "policies of five years' duration may be purchased by the Directors at a fair valuation." This means that a payment for surrender would be made by the Society. If you have decided to discontinue the assurance, the Society will inform you the amount they are prepared to pay, or, in the alternative, you could doubtless obtain a fully-paid policy. The policy and form of assignment are returned under cover.

MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE OF NEW YORK.—"ALARMED" (London) AND OTHERS.—Up to the time of going to press we have received no answer to the points raised in our last issue, and propose returning to the matter next week.

MUTUAL PROPERTY INVESTMENT.—SANTAN.—Write the Secretary, and ask if he can find a purchaser for your bond, and, if so, at what price. The surrender value representing 25 per cent. of the premiums paid seems very inadequate. Send us their prospectus and balance-sheet if you have them.

LAW INDEMNITY INSURANCE CO.—W. W. (Beaumaris).—Please send us their prospectus and balance-sheet, and we will reply further.

ROYAL LONDON FRIENDLY.—MICAW.—The policy is legal, and you could not claim a refund of the premiums paid; better get the Society to admit the correct age, and continue the payment of the premiums.—A. B. (Exeter).—(1) Whether or not you should keep the policy going is a matter for you to decide. (2) The policy is legal, the Company having refused to pay Surrender Value, are probably justified in their action by the Conditions. If a Surrender Value is not available, the Society might be willing, especially as you have been paying premiums since 1890, to issue fully-paid policies which would free you from the obligation to make further payments.

PEARL LIFE ASSURANCE.—D. W. (Sale).—The unfortunate circumstance mentioned entitles you to a good deal of sympathy. Whether or not the Company is protected against the claim is a matter determined by the condition of the assurance. You say that the Company have declined to admit any liability, but that you have been offered a grant of £5 7s. 6d. Send us the policy, and we will advise you further. ANXIOUS (Liverpool).—The policy on your mother's life is legal. As regards the second policy, you say that a mistake was made in reference to age, your mother's age having been stated as one year younger than that given on the first proposal. You had better get the error rectified now, so as to avoid the question being raised when a claim is made. R. B. (N. Walsham).—Notwithstanding absence of knowledge on the part of your mother as regards the assurances held on her life, the policies are legal, and you could not in the circumstances recover the premiums paid. J. E. J. (Marylebone).—You have an insurable interest on the lives of both father and mother, and the policies you have effected are therefore legal. C. A. P. (Malta).—You inform us that neither of the parents was cognisant of the assurance effected on their lives by your wife. This circumstance in itself does not entitle you to ask the Company to treat the policies as void and to return the premiums paid. The second policy, endorsed under the signature of Mr. G. Shrubsole, joint managing director, affords you ample protection. MAIR (Fife).—The marriage of the brother in no way affects the validity of the assured, the sister having an insurable interest. We observe that the policy was issued by the London, Edinburgh, and Glasgow Assurance Company. The policy, however, is not endorsed to show that the Pearl have accepted liability in respect of it. You should obtain this endorsement, and had better write the head office of the Company, London Bridge, London, E.C., on the matter, and let us know their reply. Your policy and receipt book have been returned under cover. W. E. J. (Denby Dale).—The liability in respect of policies issued by the London, Edinburgh and Glasgow Assurance Company is now assumed by the Pearl. Is your policy so endorsed? It is illegal, and the premiums are recoverable. Place the facts before a local solicitor, and tell him what we say. A. J. (Gower).—Is your policy endorsed to the effect that, having been issued by the London, Edinburgh and Glasgow Assurance, the liability under the same is now accepted by the Pearl? You say that you have paid premiums on the life since the year 1888, and that you have not heard from your husband, who left for America many years ago. In the circumstances, we should surrender the policy. Write the Pearl head office, London Bridge, London, E.C., and ask them to state what amount they would give, and let us know how you get on. E. E. S. (Rhodesia).—You have an insurable interest in the life of your mother, and, although the assurance was effected without her knowledge or consent, the Company could not repudiate the claim. We have returned your policy under cover. E. L. WILLS.—You say that you effected in the name of your wife assurances on the life of your mother-in-law, and that the five policies held were taken out on the condition the mother knew nothing about it, and that the agents said they "could easily arrange this matter," which they did. You now want to know your position in the matter, as you have been informed you would get very little out. You also say it is now impossible to keep up the payments as regards the first four policies. Write the Company, and ascertain if they will pay you a surrender value, or in lieu thereof issue fully-paid policies, and, if so, for what amount. The last policy, being issued so recently as November, 1909, has not been sufficiently long in force to entitle you to ask for any benefit. F. M. (Plymouth).—You say that you have insured the lives of father and mother in this Company ten years ago, that you did not obtain their consent to the assurance or their signatures to the proposal forms. It is to be deplored that so many policies should have been issued by industrial offices without either the knowledge, consent, or signatures of the assured. In the circumstances, we do not think the Company could repudiate liability. A. D. (Glamorgan).—The reply to F. M. (Plymouth) applies to your case. KENDAL.—The assurance is legal, but in the circumstances you mention we should apply for the surrender value of the policies. You say you have paid nearly £30 for £16 10s., the amount of the death benefit. Write the head office of the Company and ask what they would allow for surrender value, and let us know their answer. S S. (Withycombe).—The policy, we observe, is issued by the London, Edinburgh and Glasgow Assurance, but does not bear any endorsement to the effect that the liability has been accepted by the Pearl. The policy as it now stands is not in order. It should have been assigned by the assured mentioned in the first column to the lady whom you say has paid 1s. per week for nearly five years, although the sum assured is only £7 4s. Consult a local solicitor. Your policy is returned under cover.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—M. H. (Deptford Park).—Your best and only chance is to get free policies for what the Company will allow, and pay no more. E. W. (Richmond).—You could obtain free policies on application to the agent. You cannot recover the premiums. J. M. (Kellet Road).—You appear to be the legal claimant. Consult a solicitor. R. R. (Kennington).—The free policies are according to scale. W. J. T. (Truro).—You can have a free policy on the first one for a reduced amount. The second policy has not been in force long enough. M. C. (Southport).—You could claim the money at death, but we cannot help you to trace the insured or tell you how you are to know if death occurs. A. E. W. (Dalston).—You could obtain a free policy in lieu of the first, but not of the second. It is for you to decide which course you will take. W. S. (Sheffield).—You could not get any money, but in all the cases could demand free policies for an amount payable at death without making any further payments. J. H. C. (Paddington).—Apply to agent for free policies. We are glad you were warned by us in time. M. J. B. L. (Paddington).—Ditto. C. S. J. W. (Stockport).—We do not think so, but it is impossible to foretell. C. M. (Inverness).—Consult a local solicitor at once and place your case fully before him. I. T. (Edinburgh).—You cannot claim the money.

(A large number of replies are held over.)

It is requested that all letters sent us relating to the validity of policies held in the "Pearl" be marked on the envelope "Pearl." Owing to the number of enquiries which have been received, some little delay in dealing with them is unavoidable, but every endeavour is being made to expedite matters.

The LETTERS PATENT INSURANCE COMPANY, Ltd., are issuing a Prospectus, which states, amongst other things, that the Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.
The Company's Shares will also be offered for subscription in France, Germany, and Switzerland.
The SUBSCRIPTION LIST will CLOSE on THURSDAY, June 27th, for Country and Abroad.

The LETTERS PATENT INSURANCE CO., LTD.

Incorporated under the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.

CAPITAL - £250,000,

DIVIDED INTO 125,000 6 PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES OF £1 EACH, 2,000 6 PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES OF £50 EACH, AND 500,000 ORDINARY SHARES OF 1/- EACH.

OFFER OF 125,000 6 PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES OF £1 EACH AT PAR, 2,000 6 PER CENT. CUMULATIVE PARTICIPATING PREFERENCE SHARES OF £50 EACH AT PAR, AND 225,000 ORDINARY SHARES OF 1/- EACH AT PAR.

THE PREFERENCE SHARES ARE PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS: 10 PER CENT. ON APPLICATION, 10 PER CENT. ON ALLOTMENT, 10 PER CENT. ONE MONTH AFTER ALLOTMENT, AND THE BALANCE IN CALLS NOT EXCEEDING 25 PER CENT. OF THE NOMINAL AMOUNT AT INTERVALS OF NOT LESS THAN TWO MONTHS AS AND WHEN REQUIRED. THE ORDINARY SHARES ARE PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS: 1/- ON APPLICATION.

Each subscriber of Preference Shares will be entitled to apply for and have allotted to him Fifty Ordinary Shares in respect of each Preference Share of £50, and One Ordinary Share in respect of each Preference Share of £1 each allotted to him.

The profits of the Company available for dividend are to be applicable to the payment of a fixed cumulative preferential dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the capital paid up on the Preference Shares in priority to the Ordinary Shares. The surplus profits in each year available for dividend which shall remain after providing for the payment for such year of the said fixed cumulative preferential dividend shall be divided as to one-third thereof among the holders of the Preference Shares in proportion to the capital paid up thereon; and as to the remaining two-thirds thereof among the holders of the ordinary shares in proportion to the capital paid up thereon. The Preference shares shall also rank as regards return of capital in priority to the Ordinary Shares, but shall not confer the right to any further participation in profits or assets.

The Company will, if required, issue Share Warrants to Bearer in respect of fully paid Shares.

DIRECTORS.

EDGAR COHEN, Director of Harrod's Stores, Ltd., 8, Clarges-street, Piccadilly, W. (Chairman).
The Right Hon. LORD CHURSTON, Basildon House, Moorgate-street, E.C.
Sir FRANCIS TRIPPEL, Oakwood Court, Melbury-road, Kensington, W.
H. SYMONS, K.C. (Canadian Bar), Director, Union Life Assurance Company, Toronto, Canada, United Empire Club, Piccadilly, W.
J. G. HAIGHTON, Banker, "Holmhurst," Dulwich, S.E., and The Hague.
HENRI CHERONNET, late State Engineer to the French Government, 58, Bd. Percire, Paris.
H. LA ROCHE, of Messrs. La Roche and Cie., Bankers, Bale, Switzerland.
Dr. FRANZ WOLF BURKHARDT, Proprietor Electro-Chemische Werke, Seebach, near Zurich.

ADVISORY COUNCIL.

FRANK BAILEY, Esq., M.Inst.C.E., 64, Bankside, S.E.
SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, K.C.B., F.R.S., University College, Gower Street, W.C.
SIR BOVERTON REDWOOD, Bart., D.Sc., 4, Bishopsgate E.C.
SIR PHILIP MAGNUS, J.P., M.P., University of London.
SIR NORMAN LOCKYER, K.C.B., F.R.S., LL.D., 16, Penywern Road, S.W.
JAMES SWINBURNE, Esq., F.R.S., 32, Victoria Street, S.W.
Col. H. C. L. HOLDEN, M.I.E.E., F.R.S., C.B., St. John's Park, Blackheath.
SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE, M.R.C.S., M.D., F.R.S.E.
W. C UNWIN, LL.D., F.R.S., M.Inst.C.E., Hon. M.Inst.M.E., 7, Palace Gate Mansions, Kensington, W.
PROFESSOR G. S. BOULGER, F.L.S., F.G.S., A.S.I., 1 and 2, Great Winchester Street, E.C.

INSURANCE ADVISER.

WM. SCHOOLING, 17, Old Queen-street, Westminster, S.W.

LIST OF ENGLISH EXAMINERS AND CONSULTING ENGINEERS.

G. H. BAILLIE (of Messrs. Baillie and Dobrie), 32, Victoria-street, S.W.
T. THORNE BAKER, F.C.S., F.R.P.S., 15, Grosvenor-gardens, N.W.
B. BELFIELD, A.M.I.C.E., 3, London Wall Buildings, E.C.
W. J. R. BINNIE, M.Inst.C.E., Victoria Embankment, S.W.
BERTRAM BLOUNT, F.I.C., 73-83, York-street, Westminster.
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PROFESSOR H. C. H. CARPENTER, The University, Manchester.
Dr. G. M. CHRISTIE, The Otto Coke Oven Company, Ltd., Crigglestone.
HAROLD G. COLMAN, D.Sc., Ph.D., 1, Arundel-street, W.C.
H. A. COPE, 3, London Wall Buildings, E.C.
PROFESSOR J. B. CORMACK, University of London, W.C.
Messrs. CROSS and BEVAN, 3, New-court, W.C.
Messrs. FARMAN FRERES, Aviation Experts, Paris.
J. M. GOLDSMITH, Consulting Chemist, 76, Chancery-lane, W.C.
B. GARCKE, M.I.E.E., Electrical Federation Offices, Kingsway, W.C.
H. H. GRAY, Department of Fuel and Metallurgy, The University Leeds.
PROFESSOR A. G. GREEN, M.Sc., F.I.C., F.C.S., Leeds University.
OSCAR GUTTMANN and SONS, Cons. Eng., 53, Mark Lane, E.C.
PROFESSOR T. A. HEARSON, of Phillips and Leigh, 14-15, Southampton Buildings, W.C., Memb. Insts. C.E. and N.A., M.C.I. of Patents Agents.
G. CECIL JONES, F.I.C., 33, Gt. Tower Street, E.C.
PHILIP M. JUSTICE, Chartered Patent Agent, 55-56, Chancery Lane, W.C.
PROFESSOR VIVIAN B. LEWES, F.I.C., R.N. College, Greenwich.
Ad. LIEBMANN, Ph.D., B.A., The Whim, Weybridge.
PROFESSOR G. T. MORGAN, D.Sc., F.I.C., Royal College of Science, South Kensington.
Dr. J. GORDON PARKER, London Leather Industrial Laboratory, 176, Tower Bridge-road, S.E.
F. W. PASSMORE, Ph.D., 81, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.
SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, K.C.B., F.R.S., President of the British Association, Professor University College, Gower-street, W.C.
SIR BOVERTON REDWOOD, Bart., D.Sc., 4, Bishopsgate, E.C.
ALFRED GORDON SALAMON, F.I.C., 1, Fenchurch-avenue, E.C.
Dr. O. SILBERRAD, Ph.D., M.S.A., F.C.S., The Silberrad Research Laboratories, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.
PERCY R. SPIELMANN, Ph.D., B.Sc., F.I.C., 21, Cadogan-gardens, W.
Dr. J. B. STRAD, F.R.S., F.I.C., F.C.S., Middlesbrough.
JAMES SWINBURNE, F.R.S., 32, Victoria-street, S.W.
Th. ZETTEL, Ph.D., 67, Queen Victoria-street, E.C.

Several English and French Government Experts are also willing to act as Examiners and Consulting Engineers, but owing to their official positions, their names cannot appear on the Prospectus.

SOLICITORS TO THE COMPANY.

REYFUS and REYFUS, 69, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.
SOLICITORS TO THE PATENT PROTECTION ASSOCIATION, LTD.
CRUESEMANN and ROUSE, 85, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

BROKERS.

BROWNING, TODD, and Co., 18, Old Broad Street, E.C.
TRITTON, LABOUCHERE, and CARO, 61, Old Broad Street, E.C.
BANKERS.—LONDON CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LTD., Head Office and Branches.

AUDITORS.

HOLROYD, WEST, and NORTHCOTT, Chartered Accountants, 6, Great Winchester Street, E.C.
SECRETARY AND REGISTERED OFFICES (pro tem.), W. S. ROUSE, 46, Cannon Street, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

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LETTERS FROM JANE ANN.

[Being communications from a young person to her friends and relations.]

By Moore Anking.

IPURROO HOUSE
BALLYFYNE.

DEAR PEGGY —So pleased to think you've found something to do, queen. In a cawfee-shop, too, what a training. I've heard mother say you never know the depth of some male creechers till you try to fill them up for tuppence. Then you find they can hold more than a tram-car.

Shouldn't wonder but what our secks is the same, but I never heard mother say and I don't seem to have had over-much 'xperience as yet. Still I don't suppose all the misteries de-pend on mas-culine and cooks.

One thing, dear, it stands to reason if you get a customer with a dew-lap like an elk, and a weskit that goes twice round without touching, a penn'orth of hally-but and a small cawfee can't feed the me-najjery. How-ever, p'raps you're getting good money though there may not be much of it, anyway you ought to get plenty of entertainment on wet days when the gentle-men come in to read the papers and play dominoes. And then again you will get to know the use of langwidge won't you dearest? Makes a young person look so silly when they haven't been properly tewtored.

Girl I once knew let out that she was going to get marrid, and when somebody asked what she was going to buy for her trossoo, she said Oh I shan't trubble very much, my Bill says he don't want me to upset myself, so I shouldn't wonder if we have tea and supper in one when the com-panny have gone home. She thought a trossoo was something that wanted a lot of cooking—like tomahtoes.

I don't know if you have to be ex-amined or anything like that, Peggy dear, but if you have to go under inspeckshun if I was you I shouldn't go too far under. What I mean to say, I should have a time lim-mit. There's such funny people getting jobs under Gov'ment nowadays and it don't do to be messed about, do it, Prudence?—Peggy, I mean. Besides, dear, your blouse is your castle.

What makes them call your place a Traveller's Rest, ducky? I s'pose it means beds and things. But then if people reckon to be travel-lers they ought to keep on travel-ling, shouldn't think bed's the proper place to see the sites. Though of course one never knows where invenshun may lead enquiring minds. If I had my way with some of the travel-lers I've seen, they should be made to travel on and on and keep walking till they tumbled off the earth altogether.

Talking of beds, dear, I've heard my Aunt Margaret say As you make your bed so you must lie on it. At that rate, if you make all the beds you'll be upstairs a lot, won't you, old sparrow? P'raps they won't all want making at the same time, be too ex-hausting. I should just give them each a turn.

My poor father had a saying He that will to bed go sober, Falls with the leaf still in October. I never knew father to fall with a leaf, but I do know he couldn't always be trusted with a jug. As for lying in bed or anywhere else, father once had a friend at Holloway, name of Jim Crow, and from what I've heard before and since I do bleeve this person could lie quite ser-rene if he was put in the bed of the Bristol Channil.

Worst of all, dear, after nearly parting me and my Bert, this Crow person is going to print a book of Revelashuns, as if there wasn't enough wicked-ness known already. The idea. If I find him saying things about me I'll give him bed, the beauty, I'll get father's ghost to waltz round him nightly, with his organ. Let me know how this finds you, queen, that is if you still sur-vive.

x x x Your friend and well-wisher, x x
JANE ANN.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

SEE PAGE iii. OF COVER.

AN UNSINKABLE SHIP.

SOME PROCEEDINGS OF THE DULBOROUGH LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.

By Richard Morton.

The members of this Society resolved to give the world a record of their opinions upon the possibility of building a ship that will not sink, and a number of them at the latest meeting submitted papers on the subject which were read to their fellow members and friends.

Mr. Sappy contended in his paper that all ships could be rendered unsinkable if they were provided with stilts. These stilts would be long steel rods, either foldable or telescopic so that they could be stowed away in a small compass when not in use. At the moment of danger these stilts would be let out length by length till the bottom was reached, and the ship would then be practically standing on dry land.

It was pointed out to *Mr. Sappy* that it would perhaps be impossible to fit a ship with stilts long enough to reach to the bottom of the Atlantic.

Mr. Sappy replied that it was foolish for any ship to attempt to cross the Atlantic in a direct line. His stilts were designed for ships voyaging close in shore. Instead of rashly crossing an ocean they would skirt it, leaving the port of departure and following the coast line till they reached the port of call. It might occupy more time, but what was the loss of a little time compared with the loss of precious lives? (*Applause.*)

Mr. Vacuum introduced his ingenious idea by saying that he made a present of it to the Board of Trade and required no profit therefrom beyond the feeling that he had done his duty as an Englishman. (*Cheers.*) His idea was that to every mast of each ship should be attached a balloon, each balloon being large enough to hold the ship on top of the water. He wanted one balloon to each mast because if one should break loose the others would still be there to save the vessel from destruction. In the case of a boat with no masts the balloons would be fixed to the funnels; if there were no funnels they would be secured to iron rings fixed to the deck. It was obvious to the meanest intelligence, *Mr. Vacuum* contended, that a vessel tied to (say) three balloons, each large enough to keep it afloat, was in no danger of sinking, and he rather wondered nobody else had thought of his scheme.

The notion of *Mr. Nunshull* was remarkably fresh and original. He said that, as trains run underground by electric current, he had conceived the idea of running ships across the Atlantic in similar fashion. The Atlantic cable was already laid, so half the work was done. The Government need only increase the current and let down a cable from each ship; the propelling force was at once in action. This would do away with engines, coal, etc., and no funnels or sails would be necessary. So much for that portion of the subject. But, it would be urged, all this does not make the ship unsinkable. True, and here his idea was completed and justified, for, there being no funnels, sails, etc., necessary, the ship need not be built with a deck. It could be built round, like a ball. As everybody knew, a ball always floats and is totally unsinkable. If you push it under water it comes up again, and that was his scheme. He hoped it would benefit humanity. (*Cheers.*)

A valuable contribution to the discussion was made by *Mr. Brainy*, who, in a short but suggestive paper, said the whole question would be simply and immediately solved if all ships were compelled by law to be made of cork. It was an article of commerce, easily carved and easy to shape as required. Proceeding, he claimed that even ironclad Dreadnoughts should be built of it.

Noticing some signs of scepticism, *Mr. Brainy* asked for a glass of water. This being procured, he produced a piece of cork and some pieces of iron. He floated the cork on the water, then placed a piece of iron on top of it, repeating the process till several pieces of iron caused the cork to be submerged. He took away one piece of iron, and the cork again floated on top of the water.

"Weigh these little things," said *Mr. Brainy*, "and you know how much iron the cork will bear. Take the figures, build your Dreadnoughts in proportion, and England will possess a Navy that cannot sink!" (*Loud cheers.*)

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EXEMPLARY TOASTS WITH SUGGESTED RESPONSES.

By Walter Moore.

The Right Hon. Winston Churchill.

Gentlemen,—It does not surprise me in the least that we have a specially full attendance to-night, for Mr. Winston Churchill (cheers) is always what theatrical folks would call a good "draw." (Applause.) We should, indeed, feel highly honoured that he has found time, notwithstanding his multitudinous duties, to favour us with his company this evening (Cheers.) The burden that is resting on his shoulders just now is very heavy—which would account for his slight but increasing stoop. But seated, as I have been, on his immediate left, I am able to tell you that his appetite is as robust as one might wish.

In obedience to my duties as Chairman I have risen, interrupting "the feast of reason and flow of soul," to ask you to drink his health, and to put forward a few reasons why you should do so with enthusiasm—(cheers)—or not at all. (Laughter and cheers.)

The fact that Mr. Churchill is at the moment the trustee of the British Navy disarms, to a certain extent, one's criticism of his actions in other departments of political and public life. (Cheers.) Moreover, Mr. Churchill has taken his comparatively new duties so seriously, and shown so strong and patriotic a determination to maintain our naval supremacy, that one might well pause before indulging in too close an examination of his actions in other connections. (Cheers.) But at the same time I am convinced that our guest would be one of the last to desire to shelter himself behind the trident which he wields. (Mr. Churchill: "Hear, hear.") So, leaving the Navy out of the question, I am going to point out a few of what I conceive to be defects in his character and mistakes in his career. (Applause.) If, after I have done, you are still disposed to honour the toast, I will undertake to drink as deeply as any of you. (Cheers.)

Mr. Churchill, gentlemen, claims to be the possessor of what he has been pleased to call "The Modern Eye." Well, gentlemen, judging from the attitude he has taken up with regard to certain important questions now before Parliament, I venture to say that the most striking peculiarity of the Modern Eye is—that it squints. (Laughter.) For example, his Shops Act bears all the marks of obliquity of vision. (Hear, hear.) The position he has assumed in relation to Home Rule and the Ulster problem indicates a frantic endeavour to see two ways at once. He is distinctly wall-eyed as regards his view of Welsh Disestablishment. (Cheers) And his struggle to look straight down his nose at the Insurance Act is positively painful to observe.

So much for the Modern Eye, gentlemen. (Laughter.) I do not envy him the possession of it. Give me rather the Business Eye, whose vision is unclouded by the mists that rise from the fœtid bogs of Party feeling. (Loud applause.) However, gentlemen, our guest is heartily welcome to the possession of his myopic optic so long as he shuts it when he looks at the Navy. (Cheers.)

Mr. Churchill has recently found it necessary to defend his character in the Courts of Law. (Cheers.) It has been suggested that he broke his parole and abandoned his companions in misfortune, imprisoned at Pretoria. For one who fought so bravely in South Africa and at Sidney Street, this was an intolerable suggestion, and I for one am heartily glad that he has cleared himself of the dishonouring imputation. (Cheers.)

Now, gentlemen, in conclusion, let me ask you to forget that you have Mr. Winston Churchill before you, with all his defects and extravagances of temperament, his Modern Eye, and the rest. Shut him out from your minds, and remember only that the First Lord of the Admiralty is our guest to-night. (Loud cheers.) Do this, gentlemen, and you will be able to rise and drink his health with enthusiasm and respect. (Loud and prolonged applause.)

Mr. Churchill Responds:—

Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—I pass over your chairman's ambiguous references to one Winston Churchill, and rise simply as the temporary occupant of the post of First Lord to thank you for the heartiness with which you have drunk my health. (Loud cheers, under cover of which Mr. Churchill took his departure.)

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Seem to know yore face, mate. . . . Wos you ever in this line o'bizness yoreself? No? . . . Thought p'raps you wos—you've got the right sorter top-knot for it. . . . It would 'old a comb proper. . . . 'Alf a mo'; I know wot it is: you're somethink like that chap Ramsay Macdonald wot sits in the 'Ouse o' Commons. . . . I know it ain't a compliment, mate; but you carn't 'elp yore looks.

Torkin' about Ramsay—wot do you think of 'im? . . . *Ain't* 'e a specimen? Wot? . . . Not 'arf! Calls 'isself a Labour Leader, and jaws more about Injia in the 'Ouse then about the hinterests of the workin' clarses. . . . I should think Keir 'Ardie must 'ave bit 'im at some time or other.

Couldn't 'elp larfin' the other day, though, mate. . . . P'raps you saw it. . . . They wos discussin' the 'Ome Rule Bill, and some Member got up and moved an amendment to give Ireland a single-chamber Parliament instead of a 'Ouse of Commons and a Senate. Corse, this didn't please Redmond, 'cos 'e thinks 'e'll 'ave the job o' nominatin' the Senaters, w'ich'll jest about soot 'is book. But 'e could see the Oppersition meant to vote for the amendment, and knowin' that the Labour Party don't believe in no Second Chamber, 'e wos scared that they might vote with the Tories.

So 'e talks a bit o' blarney to the Labourites—tells 'em wot the Irish Party 'ave done for 'em, meanin', I suppose, that if it wosn't for the Nationalists the Government would come out sudden some fine day and the Labour men lose their four 'undred a year. Well, wot does Ramsay do?—the Socialist single-chamber advocate. . . . Does 'e vote accordin' to 'is princerples? Not 'im! . . . 'E thinks erbout 'is four 'undred a year, and gits up on 'is 'ind legs and tells the 'Ouse that, although 'e don't believe in no Second Chambers, 'e's agoin' to vote fur one this time—to save the 'Ome Rule Bill! . . . Did jew ever 'ear of sich a bit o' cod? Save the 'Ome Rule Bill! . . . 'Im! . . . Save 'is gran'mother, more likely. . . . Wot 'e wos pertickler careful about savin', mate, wos 'is *four 'undred a year*; so 'e ses to 'imself: "Blow princerples! 'Ere goes for a Second Chamber, although I 'ate the idea of it. But I 'ate the idea of losin' four 'undred shiners a year a bit worse."

'Ave a dab o' powder, mate? . . . Wot's up? . . . You look as if you've lorst a quid an' picked up a French 'apenny. . . . Don't worry, mate. . . . I ain't agoin' to charge you. . . . I wanted a bit of exercise, and gittin' yore face fungus orf 'as jest done it. . . . Orl right . . . give the boy a copper if yoi conscience troubles you. . . . So long, mate! . . . Do I know 'oo 'e wos, sir? . . . I should smile . . . I spotted 'im in once. . . . It wos a reg'lar 'oliday fur me, torkin' to 'im like that. . . . See 'is scowl? Gloomy-lookin' blighter!

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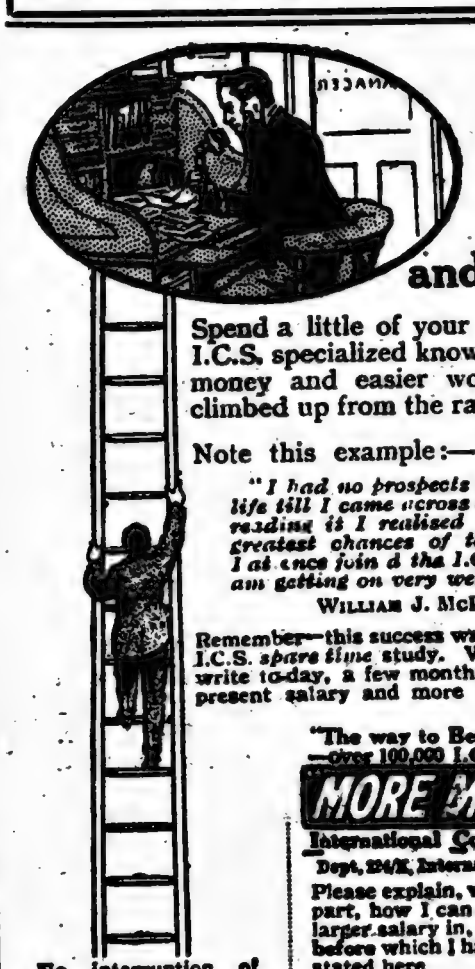

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. . Generally speaking the delicate work of Marketing Ability can be best left to Hapgoods. One side of our large Organisation is devoted to this work—the other being devoted to the finding of Men of Social Ability for Employers. We deal only with High-grade Men capable of filling posit ons carrying salaries of £150 to £1,000 per annum. If you are such a man, write us to-day.

HAPGOODS Ltd., 167-8, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

JOHN BULL SUMMER ANNUAL
128 PAGES. ONE SHILLING.

"NUGGET" BOOT POLISH
MEANS
A HIGH SHINE AND A LOW BOOT BILL

DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. CLEMENT SCOTT.

"FIND THE WOMAN."

Charles Klein's powerful four-act drama, produced by Arthur Bourchier, at the Garrick Theatre, belongs pure and simple to America, dealing as it does with the law of that land. But even granted that this is so, the play possesses moments of "thrilldom" and hair-curling situations of extraordinary interest, leading to astounding consequence. The right of questioning, cross-questioning and the grinding of a supposed criminal's brain by the chief of the New York Detective Bureau, hour in, hour out, until the poor wretch of a victim is reduced to a pulp, thus enabling Captain Clinton to "will" the man to admit anything he desires. This is happily non-existent here. In France, however, the *juge d' instruction* can persecute his defendant in the same way. Why the beautiful Madame Steinheil did not break down under the ghastly ordeal of M. André's merciless interrogation which lasted for days and days in Paris, is almost beyond comprehension. As a rule, sooner or later, this incessant, cold-blooded "test process" has the requisite result, and the limp rag of a thing—once a human being—has just strength enough to scrawl his name to a supposedly full confession of his guilt before he collapses. Such is the "Third Degree" system practised in America by the head of the detective bureau—and whether by chance or intentionally, Mr. James Carew, as Captain Clinton, is made up to look exactly like Captain McClusky, the celebrated New York officer who collected such overwhelming information in the much-talked-of Molineux murder trial several years ago. It is on this harassing subject of inquisition that Mr. Klein has based his tragedy. Mr. A. E. Matthews arrives at Julian Royce's art studio at the witching hour of midnight. He is "half seas over" already, and promptly proceeds to imbibe more alcohol. Whilst babbling about the return of some money he has lent to Royce, the bell is heard, and the porter announces that a visitor wants to see him. Hastily hustling Matthews into his bedroom, Royce prepares to receive his late lady-love, who has risked her reputation to endeavour to thwart the man she was once engaged to in his attempt to commit suicide. No longer a girl, but a married woman now, Mrs. Howard Jeffries Senior tries to dissuade Royce from his purpose, and failing, she flies from the place. A minute afterwards Julian Royce is lying dead, with a bullet through his heart. Dazed and stupid with drink, Matthews is dragged from the adjoining room, and then the scene of torture begins. As in "The Silver King," he cannot remember anything accurately, when the lifeless body of a man is found. There are two magnificent acting parts in "Find the Woman," for Miss Lydia Bilbrooke and Miss Violet Vanbrugh, but neither, unfortunately, seems somehow quite at home in her respective character. Arthur Bourchier is delightful as the family solicitor, Richard Dexter, and James Carew is at his best, which is very good indeed, as Captain Clinton. "Find the Woman" has not been over well-treated, and many a "hem" and a "haw" have been wandering between the lines I have read about Charles Klein's story. Be that as it may, the play is a fine one, and I can quite understand the long run it had in New York, and how it came to be the talk of that vast city.

A PINT JELLY FOR 2D.

The introduction of FOSTER CLARK'S JELLIES makes it possible, for the first time, to buy a FIRST QUALITY PINT JELLY for 2d.

Foster Clark's 2D PINT JELLY

TO CRICKET ENTHUSIASTS.

OUR UNIQUE TEST MATCH OFFER.

An Easy £100!

During the winter months we made it a practice to offer each week large prizes to those of our readers who were interested in the great winter pastime—Football.

Tempus fugit, and now instead of Football we are in the midst of the Cricket season. Recognised as the National game at all times, enthusiasm has been still further increased this year by the visit of the Colonial teams to take part in the Triangular Test. In view of the wonderful interest that is being displayed in these Test matches, it has occurred to us that we might give our Cricket readers similar opportunities as those we afforded footballers—viz., putting forward a test of skill which is likely to prove profitable. Therefore for every Test Match to be held hereafter we are offering the nice prize of

£100

AND TO WIN THIS SUM COSTS YOU NOTHING!

On Monday, July 8th, at Lord's, the match between

ENGLAND *v.* SOUTH AFRICA

will be commenced, and thousands upon thousands of our readers who are interested in the National game will keenly follow the progress of the play.

JOHN BULL offers a prize of

£100

to the reader who can accurately set down on the Coupon attached the name of THE PLAYER WHO SCORES THE HIGHEST INNINGS FOR EACH SIDE.

Such a novel competition has never before been promoted, and if you are a cricketer it must appeal to you.

Nothing further than this is necessary. Just fill in, on this Coupon, which player you think will score the most runs for South Africa and similarly for England, with the number of runs you think each will score. If your attempt is absolutely correct you win the £100, but in case of a tie it will be divided. To ensure *someone's* getting a prize we offer CONSOLATION AWARDS as follows. In case the £100 is not won outright we shall give a prize of

£25

to the reader who names the actual score of *one* of the players making the most runs. Should no one be successful in this we will, in any event, award a prize of £10 for what in our decision is the nearest attempt.

NOTE THESE RULES.—Cut this Coupon out neatly and address it to the Competition Editor, "JOHN BULL," 93, Long Acre, W.C., marking your envelope in the left-hand top corner "Test Match," and post it so that it reaches us not later than first post on Monday, July 8th, while it is imperative that you put your name or a *nom-de-plume* on the back of envelopes containing coupons. All competitors, who have given correct results, and those who think they have a reasonable chance of gaining the consolation prize, *must* send in their claims, together with a copy of their coupons, within seven days of the close of the match, and mark the left-hand top corner of the envelope "Cricket Claim."

TEST MATCH COUPON, No. 2.

I say that the highest score for each side in the Test Match will be as follows:—

Batsman. *Runs.*

_____ England _____

_____ South Africa _____

Competitor's Name _____

Address _____

_____

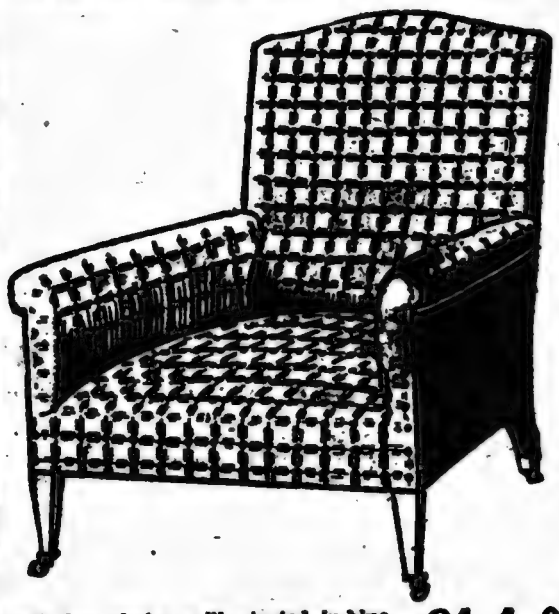
Unique Furniture Sale.

Having acquired several manufacturers' stocks of Bedroom, Dining and Drawing Room furniture we are offering these at 50 per cent. less than the original prices and every article must be cleared within the next seven days.

We want our country friends to visit us because we feel certain that you will purchase, and to enable you to do this we will pay your fare to town on all orders of £30 and upwards.
Do not fail to take this opportunity. It will mean money in your pockets.

SECOND-HAND DEPARTMENT. We have been purchasing second-hand furniture from all the noted and important sales during the past six months and are now offering these also at sale prices.

Any article we sell may be obtained on our well-known Gradual Payment System, the payments extending over one, two or three years at the option of the purchaser. No deposit is required, neither do we add interest or make any extra charges whatsoever.



107 Easy chairs as illustrated, in blue, green or red Cordmoy. Usual price, £2 1s. 0d. Sale price **£1-1-0**

The following list of articles which we are unable to illustrate, must be cleared this week certain :—

200 Bedroom Suites, painted in all art shades at 50/- Usual price £4 14s. 6d.
23 Walnut Sideboards at £4 14s. 6d. Usual price, £7 17s. 6d.
34 Louis-style Cabinets at 50/-. Usual price, £4 10s. 0d.
106 Large-size Oak Bedroom Suites at 6 guineas. Usual price, 9 guineas.
13 Saddlebag Dining Room Suites at £5 15s. 0d. Usual price 8½ guineas.
27 Oak Dining Room Suites at 4½ guineas. Usual price, 7½ guineas.
300 Overmantels, assorted designs, at 30/-. Usual price, 3 guineas.
163 Wicker upholstered Chairs, at 7/6. Usual price, 14/6.
61 Bedsteads and Bedding complete, at 26/6. Usual price, 50/-.
400 Art Carpet Squares, at 15/-. Usual price, 32/6.
162 Large-size Fumed Oak Bureaux, at 25/-. Usual price, 50/-.
16 Oak Bureau Bookcases, at £3 18s. 6d. Usual price, 6 guineas.
14 Inlaid Mahogany Music Cabinets, at 35/-. Usual price, 3 guineas.
6 Pianos by well-known makers, at 14 guineas. Usual price, £22 10s. 0d.

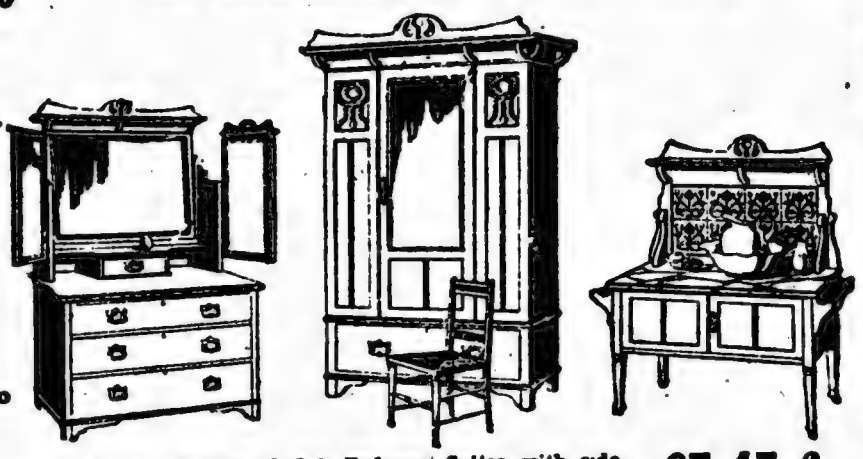
Also a large quantity of Cutlery, Linen, Plate, etc.

TERMS.

Worth. £	Per Month. £ s. d.
10	6 0
20	11 0
50	1 8 0
100	2 5 0
200	4 10 0
500	11 5 0
1,000	22 10 0
2,000	45 0 0

Or by other proportionate payments to suit purchaser's convenience.

A special discount of 10 per cent. will be allowed for prompt cash.



82 Large size fumed Oak Bedroom Suites, with side Mirrors to the dressing chest; 2 rush chairs are included. Usual price £10 10s 0d. Sale price **£7-17-6**

Country orders are packed and delivered free.

Our fully illustrated catalogue will be forwarded post free on application.

MIDLAND
FURNISHING · CO · LTD
15 TO 23 · SOUTHAMPTON · ROW · HOLBORN · LONDON · W·C

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when forwarding cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when writing regarding previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," AND ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS and ARTISTS *submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write name and address upon the back of their work. The Editor cannot accept any responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work* WHEN STAMPED, ADDRESSED ENVELOPES ARE ATTACHED TO THE MANUSCRIPT. ALL MATTER SUBMITTED MUST BE ORIGINAL UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED. *The most suitable lengths for articles and stories are about 750 words (one column), or 1,500 words (a page).*

The EDITOR *cannot express any opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.*

CORRESPONDENTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SEND ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., *as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be forwarded in the first instance.*

H. C. (Preston) cannot make up his mind whether our recent rebuke to Mr. Alan Burgoyne, M.P., for questioning the political sincerity of Ramsay Macdonald was "meant sarcastic." We refer him to the "Open Letter" to the so-called Labour leader in our issue of May 25th.

C. W. B. (Hampstead).—There is no means of ascertaining the names and addresses of the jury in the case of Powell and the Junior Army and Navy Stores. But we have no reason to think that any of them were shareholders.

"NILEAT" wants to know where he can find advice about stocks and shares. Why not read JOHN BULL?

"AN EYE WITNESS" tells us how thirty or forty policemen "rushed out, as if they was going to war," and "frog-marched a bald-headed old man." He says: "I head some fellers say that if they had a revolver they would Let go or if there had been stones about they would throw and I would help." This sounds almost like justifiable lawlessness, if we may say so without sharing the cell of Mr. Thomas Mann.

"SHELLBACK" repeats the old complaint about the neglect of the mercantile marine, and suggests that a royal prince should be put into it as an apprentice. He says, "A rush for the sea by fine British boys would result, and what a good thing to lay the foundation for British seamen for British ships."

J. S. (Longhope) says he has lived in a village for 26 years, and read little besides the *Daily News* and one or two Christian papers. So we are not surprised to find him writing: "Do you know the Rev. F. B. Meyer personally? No man could know this great and good man without reverencing him as one of the *few* noblest, purest, self-denying, sweetest, chivalrous men on God's earth. It is terrible that such a man should be pilloried in the House of Commons in the eyes of the whole world, held up to contempt and ignominy." The best advice we can give for this case is a course of JOHN BULL for the next six months. After that perhaps J. S. will write to us again, with a wider horizon.

R. H. M. (Para) was violently assaulted two years ago in Manaos, North Brazil, by a drunken pensioned officer of the police force, but the British Vice-Consul has not been able to obtain any redress. We thought every one knew that there can be no proper protection for British subjects abroad so long as the Consular service is filled with foreigners.

Miss E. G. M. (Peckham Rye) is kind enough to advise us about a preacher whom, she says, we ought to hear. She says she is "not asking for payment for her advice." We are sorry to hear this as, of course, we should otherwise have sent her a cheque by return of post.

S. R. (Pontycymmer) wants us to adjudicate about a dog which he sold to a gentleman who is now extremely angry. As the dog has been poisoned it would be rather difficult for us to offer a post-mortem decision.

P. G. (Southampton) says that dust carts only come round once a fortnight in that go-ahead town. Anyhow, it won't matter if the dustmen go on strike.

E. D. (s.s. "Cedric") warns travellers to America that first and second class passengers are liable to all the horrible discomforts of detention on Ellis Island. He had a fainting attack during the voyage and was accordingly suspected. He seems to have been treated very discourteously and unkindly, but we do not suppose he would have been so much surprised, if he had taken the trouble to make a few enquiries about Yankees before sailing. For fainting fits our prescription is: Nothing stronger than rum between now and Christmas.

C. W. (Bristol) wants us to establish relationship between Sir Cosmo Duff Gordon and the gentleman who perished rather carelessly at Khartoum "and refused to escape from his murderers." This little sentence rather interests us, because we have not the faintest idea how General Gordon could have escaped, or how the Khalifa's armies can be regarded as murderers.

"WINDSOR READER" enquires impertinently about our millionth copy, for which we believe we adumbrated a prize a long time ago, but were stopped by the police on the ground that we were infringing the Lottery law. Still, we shall get over it somehow, but not for the benefit of anonymous libellers.

W. R. (Leyton) and many others, want us to swallow a "Biscuit" for speaking of General Booth "looking on the world with sightless eyes." We are afraid they are lacking in literary instinct. It was rather a fine phrase.

"SUFFRAGETTE" (Birmingham).—No; the Irene Miller now appearing on the music-hall stage must not be confounded with the famous Suffragette and authoress of "Sekhet."

W. S. G. (London).—The Editor really cannot be responsible for advertising inserts—many of which are inserted after the journal leaves the publishing office.

"WRATE" (East Ham), tells us, *apropos* of our suggestion that wines and spirits supplied to vessels should be taxed, that some of the men employed on the *Highland Brae* earn as much as £8 to £10 a week, but "spend nearly all their earnings at the bar." We do not like our correspondent's *nom de plume*.

"A MILITARY OFFICER" (Edinburgh) takes exception to a pictorial advertisement issued by the proprietors of a certain insect powder, and introducing a parody upon the well-known poem upon the burial of Sir John Moore. We must not, however, say much about the matter, or Mr. Astbury, K.C., will accuse us of bringing undue pressure to bear upon an advertiser.

"A READER" protests against churchyards, even when otherwise unused, being utilised as sleeping-places for children. We are dealing with the matter editorially.

R. D. (Dublin) thinks the interest on Consols should be increased so as to give back to widows and orphans what they invested in the national security. But widows and orphans are difficult to define, and many bloated millionaires might profit by the adoption of her scheme. We must wait for the "Business Government."

E. G. M. (Peckham) is kind enough to say that our paper is improving and that he does not see "anything bad or harmful" in last week's copy. Hitherto he (or she?) has used influence to prevent anyone from even looking at it. How did *she* come to see us?

X. Y. Z. (Aberdare).—If the horses employed at the colliery named really have rotten legs, why not appeal to the R.S.P.C.A., whose business it is to deal with such cases? Sixteen hours a day certainly sounds excessive for their work in such a state of health.

"A READER FROM THE FIRST" complains of the Isle of Man Steamship Company. He says he is not well up in nautical phrases, but their cabins ought to be called pens.

L. M. P. sends us a letter from a friend at Calgary, Canada, informing him: "i was going to make a trip up West well i have and i have found it as bad as Winnipeg so i think i will get back as soon as possible as i don't like it a bit i can't stick it for long there's no work here at all i was under the impression that there was heaps but it is the same as Winnipeg. If i went to a boarding had to pay a week in advance will i must close now with love from your loving son Jack." This seems fairly convincing.

W. F. (Caledonian Road) sends us a letter from his loving brother who went out to Australia and complains that the potatoes were boiled in ink. As to tea he says: "Without a word of a lie, you can see all the faces you know and love through it. The pepper is black. The best feed there is on the boat is at supper-time, which consists of ship's cocoa, hard biscuits, bread and cheese. All the pipes are rusty. As God's my judge it's the truth as three to four hundred other passengers can say. Well, I have said enough." We quite agree, as we happen to have travelled ourselves by his boat.

P. J. says: "I felt wild enough to send a challenge to Jim Crow, but later I read of Duff Gordon so now we are all square." Unfortunately, we do not see the connection, neither Duff Gordon nor Jim Crow having been drowned so far.

THE REV. J. W. McK. (Findochly) says: "It will, of course, surprise you to learn that jokes are often made in Scotland. They are." Perhaps, but it is not everybody in South Britain who can understand them.

"A PLEADER" (Whitechapel) warns inexperienced folk of the dangers of walking through the Whitechapel Road, and tells us tales of robberies of poor people. He says "The police stand as though afraid to open their mouths, and allow notorious gentlemen thieves to go on robbing poor-class people with impunity." Surely this is an exaggeration. Whitechapel is quite as civilised as Limehouse, as Mr. Lloyd George can testify.

"WILLIE OFF THE YACHT" (Bristol) asks whether Hamburg lotteries are designed for the purpose of obtaining British capital for German warships. What an idea!

"SINCERE FRIEND" (Ontario) says he has saved money out there though he is a hearty eater and only earns 17½ cents per hour, and he would sooner be out there than at home. Of course, we do not deny that some people are better suited to the colonies than to the freedom and joyfulness of the old country. We note his boast: "I neither drink intoxicants nor chew nor *smoke Tobacco*."

"AN IMMIGRANT READER OF 'JOHN BULL'" (Adelaide) sends us an advertisement from a South Australian paper:—"CARPENTERS.—Wanted, good smart Men: *no immigrants.*" We agree that it is as well to warn people about the sort of welcome they are likely to receive at the antipodes.

"HOLLANDER" objects to being called a "stinking Dutchman" by Jim Crow, and says that he is not sure that stink is really a Dutch word. Jim, however, is content to rely upon Dr. Johnson.

R. L. F. (Barrow-in-Furness) and A. A. M. (Peckham).—Phrases like "having accomplished the impossible" may not be strictly accurate, but they have the advantage of attracting attention.

W. D. T. (Sheffield) sends us a Postal Order for 2s. 6d. for the benefit of Mr. Powell, the consumptive clerk who sued the Junior Army and Navy Stores. This amount, together with the others subscribed by our readers, has been forwarded to him.

"CONSTANT READER" (Taunton) bought a big Bible on the hire system, and wants to know how to get out of paying for it. As he says he has more muscle than money, we can only suggest a friendly spar.

Miss G. (Shepherd's Bush Road) says she determined to write us a letter that people would read because it was a live article, but most of it seems to consist in a conversation which she had with a "small voice." We are relieved to hear that she does not desire to interview us.

W. A. C. (Walthamstow) sends us a warning not to overlook the fact that Mr. Grahame-White is to be married at Writtle Church, and have his wedding breakfast at Hyndlands, Chelmsford. But we have not been invited.

(We are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

£100 for two correct scores. See page 838.

ON SALE MONDAY NEXT - JULY 1

First Year of Issue

1/- NETT.

LOOK FOR THIS COVER IN COLOURS

THE BEST OF THE YEAR:

JOHN BULL'S ANNUAL

128 PAGES

of Bright, Breezy, and Brilliant

Stories, Articles, Humour and Pictures,

produced on a lavish scale, in

Beautiful Cover in Colours.

A special feature of this, the first "John Bull's Summer Annual," will be a delightful and superb Series of

28 Full-page Plates in Colours

(AND A PORTRAIT OF MR. BOTTOMLEY)

and Black and White by leading Artists, including

WILL OWEN, CHAS. CROMBIE, TONY SARG,

FRANK HOLLAND, and HAROLD C. EARNSHAW

The text will be profusely illustrated.

128 PAGES

One Shilling Nett.

ON SALE JULY 1.

The Best Companion for Home and Holidays.

The demand will be enormous. Better place an order NOW.

CAN YOU HIT THE BULL'S EYE?

PRELIMINARY TRIAL.

We have instituted what we believe will be a very popular competition, in which all may join, consisting of

HITTING THE BULL'S EYE.

We guarantee Weekly Prizes amounting to not less than £25, divided as follows:—

1st PRIZE, 25 per cent.;
2nd PRIZE, 15 per cent.;
3rd PRIZE, 10 per cent.; and

Forty Prizes of not less than 5/- each for the best attempts to

HIT THE BULL'S EYE.

The competition consists in completing any one of the unfinished Bull's Eyes appearing below. The answers must be crisp and to the point, and the prizes will be awarded to those readers who, in the judgment of the Editor—whose decision is to be absolutely final—hit the Bull's Eye in the clearest and sharpest form. The other Bull's Eyes will guide them as to the style they should adopt, and the finishing of the incomplete ones should afford much amusement and, at the same time, instruction.

All Bull's Eyes must be sent in on the form on this page, and a postal order for 6d. must accompany each coupon. Postal orders must be made payable to JOHN BULL *and crossed "& Co." Competitors sending more than one Coupon may enclose one Postal Order for the full amount to cover the whole of the Coupons, at the rate of 6d. for each Coupon. Write your name and address on the back of the Postal Order, and also put the number of the Postal Order on the Coupon. Coupon will be found on this page. Not more than* TWO *attempts may appear on any* ONE COUPON *and the Sixpence covers the entrance fee of both. Any Bull's Eye may be varied any number of times.*

The Bull's Eyes selected for the Competition are numbered, and it is not necessary to repeat the printed portion of the lines, as long as the numbers are mentioned on the coupons.

We wish it to be understood that the prizes will be awarded strictly on MERIT *and without any regard to the population of towns, or any other ulterior consideration. Competitors, however, should bear in mind that* NOVELTY *is an important consideration in selecting the successful Bull's Eyes.*

BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—

Are they calling him "Dinna Ken-na" now?

Wouldn't a redistribution of seats mean that some members would have to "stand" again?

Is a Board of Trade "ship surveyor" one who "overlooks" ships?

Shouldn't the whisker habit be dis-countenanced?

Was "S.O.S. (Save our *soles*)" the Navy's message to Mr. Churchill?

The gondoliers of Venice have gone on strike. The inhabitants now have to paddle their own canoes.

A new anæsthetic has been discovered, but the Parliamentary Reports take a lot of beating.

---

1. Thomas Edison says we sleep too much. Now we know why . . .

Fifteen girls have been discharged by a Philadelphia journal for dancing the Turkey Trot. "Hop it" was the order of the day.

"One cannot improve on Nature," says M. Rodin. What a pity more artists will not realise this.

Ten acres of tobacco are under cultivation in North Wales. We fear "light returns" will be the result.

---

2. "Rubber boom ends in starch," reads a heading. Evidently the market . . .

Rattlesnake venom, said to be a cure for epilepsy, sounds far more likely to give people fits.

"Whist is better than chess," says the Rev. Principal Adeny. But the latter is always played on the square.

"Attempting to cause her bodily harm," was the charge against a man who threw his wife out of the window. It looks suspiciously like it.

---

3. It is stated that brides are much older now when they marry. Yes, they don't . . . .

A famous dancer has been performing with "Nature as stage-manager." Not as costumier, this time.

A weekly paper is offering an "office for nothing" as a prize. Here is a chance for disappointed Government supporters.

Stage-folk who receive less than £3 1s. 6d. per week must be insured. This makes the Act a sort of "Super"-tax.

RESULT OF COMPETITION NO. 10.

After a careful examination of the coupons sent in, we have decided to divide the first three prizes among the following competitors:—

MR. W. HODGSON,
Corner House, Bury Lane,
Horsell, near Woking,

with respect to the termination of the following Bull's Eye printed in *italics*:—

The Tottenham woman who left her husband because he went "bicycle mad" should have remembered that she took him for *cycle-ogical reasons;*

MR. JAMES MONTAGUE,
31, Carlyle Road, Edgbaston,
Birmingham,

for

Some people are so absent-minded that they *can easily be "fleeced" while themselves "wool-gathering";*

MR. RALPH ALLEN DANIELL,
Halwell, Linkinhorne, Callington,
Cornwall,

and

MR. P. LEONARD,
10, Bellevue Cottages,
Race Hill, Brighton,

for

"Mulai Hafid leaves his capital," we read. We think it far more probable that he has *only si-mulai-ted, and taken care to Hafid with him;* and *in-vest-ed it, so as to Hafid with him.*

The following competitors receive awards of 5s.:—

W. M. Robinson, Daisy Villa, Victoria Street, Basingstoke; Mrs. D E. Dee, 13b, Broadway Mansions, Stamford Hill, N.; L. Mortelmans, 7, Harringay Gardens, Harringay, N.; F. J. McNamara, 203, Longside Road, Glasgow; W. H. Binks, 9, Kenton Street, W.C.; E. A. Redford, Avondale House, Aireville Road, Bradford; W. Lee, 26, Eswyn Road, Tooting, S.W.; F. Chapman, 28, Horton Grange Road, Bradford, Yorks; A. R. Hilton, 16, Queen's Road, Doncaster; A. W. Dolland, "Westcroft," Salisbury Road, Carshalton; E. J. Swift, 44, Alden Grove, Newington Green, N.; F. W. Channing, 84, Huntsmoor Road, East Hill, S.W.; J. Vindiger, 54, Cotleigh Road, West Hampstead, N.W.; E. G. Dutch, 69, High Street, Reigate; W. H. Beeks, "Rothwell," Northampton; Miss J. Bailey, Spring Cottage, Ramsden, Basingstoke; Miss M. Thomson, 4, Ann Street, Hillhead, Glasgow; C. S. Shaw, 2, Benno Avenue, Blacker Road, Birkby, Huddersfield; W. Henry, 98, Glenpark Road, Forest Gate, E.; R. McCoy, 36, Queen's Road, Bootle, Liverpool; G. J. Davey, 7, College Road, Walthamstow, N.E.; G. S. Parker, 179, Shelbourne Road, Bournemouth; G. W. Dolbel, Basford Park, Stoke-on-Trent; W. Anthony, 14, Grey Road, Selby Road, Leytonstone; Mrs. E. Burt, 94, Kingcraft Street, Mountain Ash, South Wales; G. Robinson, 660, Fulham Road, S.W.; A. Mason, North Eastern Hospital, St. Ann's Road, Tottenham; J. Beham, 20, Southcote Road, Tufnell Park, London, N.; P. T. Frances, 11, Belgrave Road, Ilford, Essex; W. Saunders, 16, Prior Park Buildings, Bath; Nellie Wilson, 74, Darven Street, Blackburn, Lancs; A. F. White, R.N.B. *Devonshire*, Devonport; Mrs. G. A. Rogers, 42, Lime Grove, Crewe, Cheshire; C. Hattemore, 15, St. Lawrence Road, Clontarf, co. Dublin; H. Barrett, 171, Mount Pleasant Road, Tottenham, N.; A. Clayton, Leamington, Church Road, Mosely, Birmingham; Major Sydney Dunbury, "Kismet," Salisbury, Wilts.; D. Teage, Vendley House, Tring; A. A. Hayler, 1, Dorlcote Road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.; J. J. Leary, 138, Queen's Road, Everton, Liverpool.

BULL'S EYE COUPON.—No. 12.

Postal Order No.

JOHN BULL, *June 29, 1912.*

I enter JOHN BULL *Bull's Eye Competition (issue of June 29, 1912) on the terms stated in such issue.*

Name _____

Address _____

I select Bull's Eye No. *and suggest the following finish:—*

Not more than 12 words.

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I select Bull's Eye No. *and suggest the following finish:—*

Not more than 12 words.

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Competitors need not select more than one Bull's Eye unless they care to do so. Postal Order for Sixpence must accompany this Coupon and be crossed "& Co." Coupon must be sent not later than WEDNESDAY NEXT, *July 3rd, to Bull's Eye Editor,* JOHN BULL, *93 and 94, Long Acre, London, W.C.*

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and if you are in every respect entirely pleased with the suit when delivered and tried on at home, the balance is payable by six monthly payments of 5/-. But if you are in any way disappointed with the work, you are under no obligation whatever to keep the suit, and we will immediately return the whole of the money.

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Milton Mansions, Queen's Club Gardens,
Drayton Road, Harlesden
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Maud Street, Rhyl,
and Elsewhere.

THE DINING ROOMS, ETC.,

comprise the following: Set of 6 small chairs and 2 arm chairs, Georgian period, 14 guineas; Georgian Sideboard to match, 11 guineas; dining table to match, extending, £7 10s.; Bookcase to match, 6 guineas; very massive oak Sideboard, £5 10s.; Overmantel to match, £2 5s.; Extending dining table, £2 10s.; 6 small chairs and 2 arm chairs in carved oak, 40 guineas; Sideboard, very finely carved, in oak, to match, 12 guineas; 3 Chesterfield Settees, £3 10s. each; 6 very fine Lounge Club Divan easy chairs, 27s. 6d. each; Carved Oak Dining Table, 4 guineas; Carved Oak Overmantel, £2 10s.; Saddlebag suite, £4 13s.; another dining-room suite, £3 15s.; Massive carved oak Sideboard, with oxydised copper fittings, bevelled plate glass, 6 small chairs and 2 arm chairs to match, extending dining table, heavy curb suite, £15 10s. the lot; similar set in fumigated oak, £13 10s.; 10 real Turkey carpets, about 9 by 12, at 7 guineas each; 4 Turkey carpets, about 9 ft. 6 ins. by 12 ft. 6 ins., £8 10s. each; 20 Turkey rugs, from 25s.; numerous carpets in Tapestry, Axminster and Velvet Pile, all sizes, in thoroughly good condition, to be sold without any reserve; a most elegant Grand Piano, 18 guineas; an upright Grand Piano, 12 guineas; another by Adolph Achumann, 18 guineas; another, by Carl Strauss, 22 guineas; several Grand Pianos by Broadwood, Emil Paner, Collard and Collard, Bluthner, and Bechstein; 3 Hall Stands, 18s. 6d. each; hall chairs, from 7s. 6d.; and all necessary effects for completely furnishing Dining Rooms, Smoke Rooms, Libraries, Studies, etc., etc.

40 COMPLETE BEDROOMS.

Amongst numerous other articles are the following: All Brass square tube Bedstead, complete with spring mattress, £3 15s.; 10 Black and Brass Bedsteads, 12s. 6d. each; 12 White and Brass Bedsteads, 17s. 6d. each; 21 Oak Combination Bedsteads, 15s. 3d. each; pair Twin Brass Bedsteads, £5 10s.; full size Black and Brass Bedstead, with wire spring, overlay bolster, and 2 pillows, 45s.; massive 2 ft. pillar bedstead, with sanitary woven wire spring, 26s. 6d.; all brass bedstead, heavy pillars, almost new, £2 10s.; 6 Solid Oak Bedroom suites, complete, £4 10s. each; 6 White enamelled Bedroom Suites, Louis XV. period, £7 10s. each; 4 large solid Walnut Bedroom Suites, £9 10s. each; 6 Sheraton design Bedroom suites, £7 10s. each; very fine Sheraton design Bedroom suite, 12 guineas; 3 Gents' Wardrobes, fitted with trays and drawers, £7 10s. each; a Chippendale design mahogany Bedroom suite, £28; very fine Italian Brass Bedstead, 13 guineas; Sheraton design bedstead, complete with bedding, £4 5s.; Chippendale design mahogany Bedroom suite, £35; 7 ft. Satinwood Bedroom Suite, fully inlaid, £100; pair of Bedsteads to match, £20; 6 ft. 6 in. Sheraton design Bedroom suite, £60; 7 ft. Sheraton design Bedroom suite, 70 guineas; Sheraton design Bedstead to match, £9 10s.; 6 ft. Satinwood Bedroom suite, fully inlaid, £50; 6-ft. Olive wood Bedroom suite, almost new, 40 guineas; 12 Chests of Drawers, £2 10s. each; 2 Inlaid Sheraton design Cheval Glasses, £4 10s. each; and several other Bedroom Suites and Bedsteads, all to be sold without any reserve.

THE DRAWING ROOMS

include a very fine Chesterfield suite, upholstered in silk, most elaborate, £25; another Chesterfield suite in silk tapestry, £12 15s.; Satinwood finish Drawing Room suite, £8 15s.; large size 6 ft. Chesterfield and 2 easy chairs to match, £15 15s.; a Satinwood finish Cabinet, 8 guineas; Vernis Marten Cabinet, 14 guineas; Buhl Cabinet, £12 10s.; very pretty Boudoir Suite, 4 guineas; another, 6 guineas; 6 Chesterfields with adjustable ends, covered in art tapestry, £3 10s. each; 10 easy chairs, 25s. each; 25 Occasional Chairs, 6s. 6d. each; Occasional tables, from 20s. each; Satinwood decorated centre table, £2 5s.; Satinwood decorated China Cabinet, 13 guineas; Satinwood decorated Overmantel, £3 5s.; Gilt Drawing Room suite, 14 guineas; an all brass Fender Suite, 4 guineas; 6 Gilt chairs, 15s. each; 3 Gilt Berger chairs, covered in silk, 10 guineas each; Baby Grand Piano, 40 guineas; pair 9 light Candelabra, 7 guineas; 3 gilt suites covered in French silk, £8 10s. each; Curio Table, 30s.; 6 White enamelled Overmantels, 18s. 6d. each; 4 Axminster carpets, with borders, about 11ft. by 14 ft., £7 10s. each; several other Axminster and Velvet Pile carpets; large quantity of Sheffield plate and silver; also table linen, bed linen, draperies, etc., etc.

All goods delivered Town or Country, free of charge, or can remain stored 12 months free of charge. All goods shipped for Abroad perfectly free. Country Buyers should call and inspect these goods, where they can be seen any day, from 9 till 9, except Saturdays, when we close at 7 o'clock, at

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RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.

["*Larry Lynx*" *of* The People, "*Double U. L.*" *of* Lotinga's Weekly, *and* "*Maggie*" *of* The Globe.]

Prophetic.

Up North the "Plate" should fall to the very popular Lonsdale colours upon

Eufrosina,

whilst Baker Boy must take the Gibside Selling Plate.

At Brighton

Poor Boy

will win another race, at least, and Charlie Wood's stable be amongst the prizes with Isleta Colt.

Folkestone should mean a win for

Royal Engineer

in the Chatham Handicap, and Shoneen, among the 3-year-olds, whilst Sandown ought to give atonement for Ascot beatings to Ma'oona in the Dominion Plate, and

King Malcolm

for the Sandringham Stakes.

OUR FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

RESULT.

This competition has caused us an enormous amount of unnecessary trouble, on account of the number of bogus and inaccurate claims sent in. In many instances, claims were forwarded without any coupons being sent, and in others the coupons did not bear out the statements of the claimants. These causes are responsible for the delay in publishing the result. Many competitors gave three of the teams taking part in the semi-final and final—but did not correctly anticipate the number of goals scored.

After a most careful scrutiny we have decided to divide the Consolation Prize of

£52 10s.

between two competitors who each gave the correct result in one match played in the Semi-Final, and named one team competing in the Final. These are:—

Mr. Tim Haley, 15, Alexandra Street, Stockton-on-Tees, who gave—

Semi-Finals.

Barnsley	1	Swindon	0
Bradford City	2	Fulham	0

Final.

Barnsley	2	Bradford City	1

and

Mr. J. Lawrie, Shamrock Villa, St. James' Road, Brixton, who gave—

Semi-Finals.

Barnsley	1	Swindon	0
Everton	1	Aston Villa	0

Final.

Barnsley	2	Everton	0

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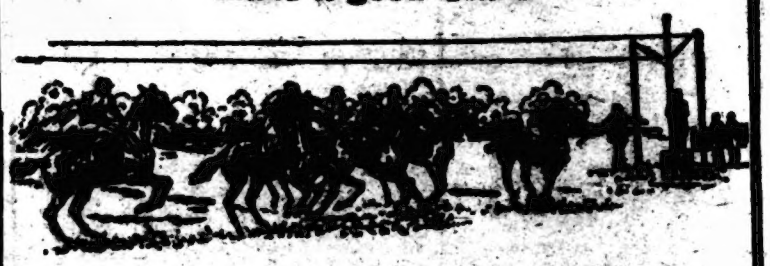

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